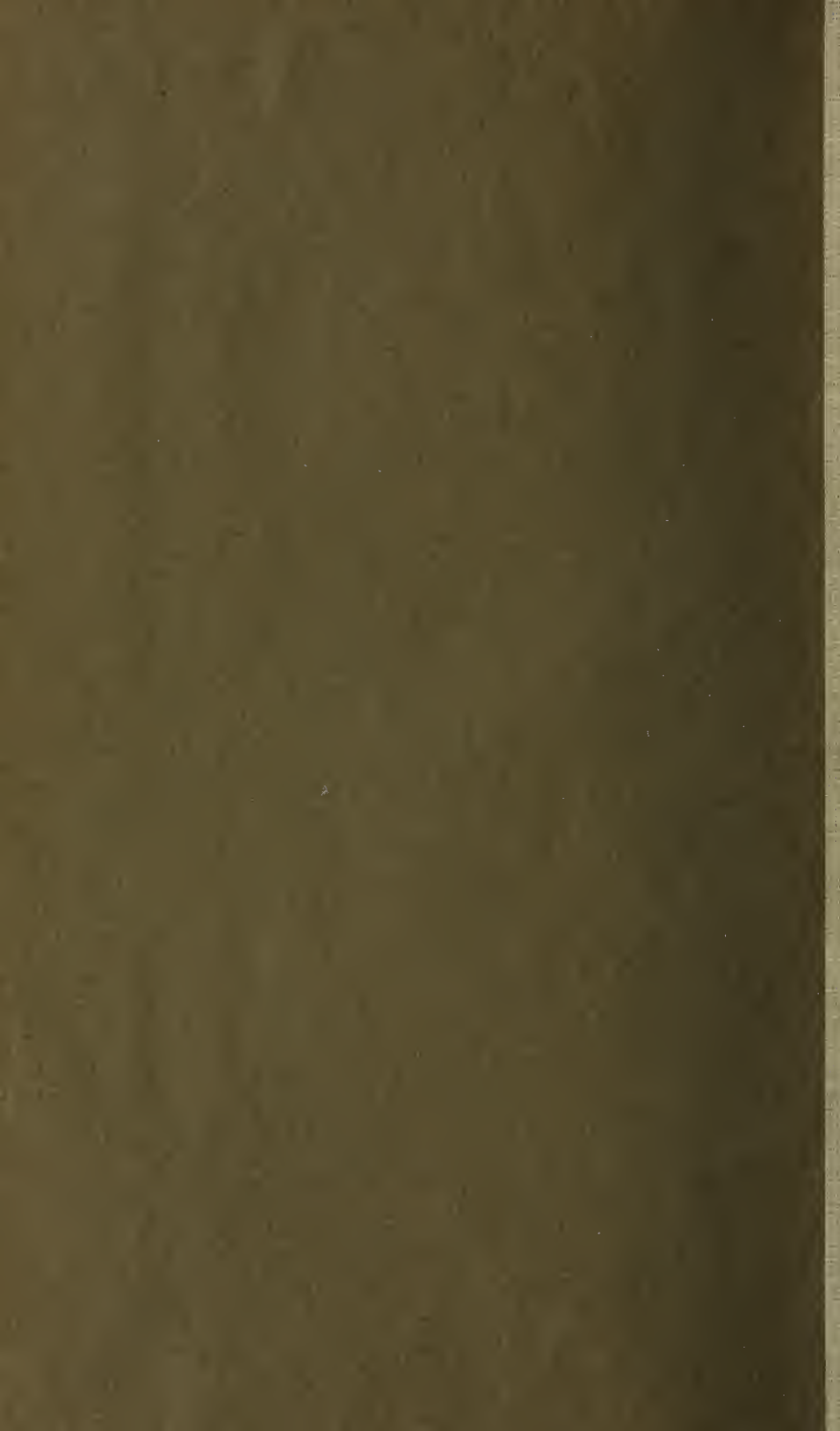


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OF ILLINOIS
LIBRARY

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LIBRARY
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Borough of Aston Manor

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Free Libraries Committee,

APRIL 1st, 1903, TO MARCH 31st, 1904.

Being the TWENTY-SIXTH from the Establishment of the
Library by the Aston Manor Local Board.

Aston Manor:

PRINTED FOR THE FREE LIBRARIES COMMITTEE.

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Borough of Aston Manor

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Being the TWENTY-SIXTH from the Establishment of the
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Aston Manor:

PRINTED FOR THE FREE LIBRARIES COMMITTEE.

SEP 6 1927

Borough of Aston Manor.

Free Libraries Committee, 1903-4.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN FREDK. SMITH, J.P.

DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P., *Chairman.*

COUNCILLOR T. P. BIRD.

COUNCILLOR H. GUEST.

COUNCILLOR A. HARRIS.

COUNCILLOR S. A. PARKES.

COUNCILLOR F. S. TOMEY.

MR. SIDNEY FISHER.

THE REV. G. E. PRICE.

THE REV. E. DALE ROBERTS, M.A.

MR. WILLIAM UNITE.

Hon. Sec.—MR. JOSEPH ANSELL, J.P., *Town Clerk.*

Assistant Hon Sec --MR. WILLIAM THOMPSON.

Chief Librarian—MR. ROBERT K. DENT.

Assistant Librarian—MR. T. NEWELL.

Attendant and Caretaker at Branch Library—

MR. T. LOVEROCK.

Past Chairmen of the Free Libraries Committee :

1877-78. MR. EDWARD EVANS

1878-83 DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.

1883-87 REV. FREDERICK SMITH, M.A.

1887-90. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.

1890-94. MR. JAMES OSBORNE.

1895-96 COUNCILLOR W. UNITE.

1896 97. COUNCILLOR W. E. COOKE.

1897-1900. COUNCILLOR H. GUEST.

1900-03. COUNCILLOR S. FISHER.

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1903/04 - 1910/11

REPORT.

*

During the year ending March 31st, 1904, an important change has been made in the local government of Aston Manor. In August, 1903, a Charter of Incorporation was granted, and, upon the election of the first Town Council for the new Borough, the present Free Libraries Committee was appointed. But although the Library Authority is virtually a new one, the work of the Library, in all its departments, has been continuous. The Committee, therefore, have pleasure in presenting the Twenty-Sixth Annual Report of the work of the Library.

The year has been an eventful one for the Library. On the 30th of October, 1903, the new Branch Library, at Aston Cross, was opened by Alderman EDWARD ANSELL, in the presence of a large and representative company of inhabitants. The building (the site of which was given by Messrs. WILLIAM and EDWARD ANSELL, and the cost of erection defrayed by Dr. ANDREW CARNEGIE) comprises a fairly large, well-lighted and well-ventilated Reading Room, a commodious Library, and apartments for the Resident Caretaker, who is also Library Attendant. The issue of books commenced on the 14th December, and, at the date of this Report, over 600 borrowers have taken out tickets, and over 8,000 volumes have been issued. The Library at present contains 1,465 volumes.

Upon the lamented death of Mr. WILLIAM ANSELL, J.P., who had on so many occasions manifested, by the most generous acts, the keen interest he took in all that concerned the welfare of the Public Library, it was found that he had added to his many benefactions while living by bequeathing to the Council the sum of one thousand pounds, to be used for the benefit of the Library in such manner as His Worship the Mayor and the Town Clerk might deem advisable.

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The issues at the Central Library have maintained the same satisfactory average attained last year, those of the Reference Department being nearly 3,000 in excess of last year's total. The total issues from the three Departments — Lending, Reference, and Branch — amount to 113,000.

The additions to the Library during the year include many works of importance ; among them, " English Literature," by R. Garnett and E. Gosse, 4 vols. ; the new edition of Chambers's Cyclopædia of English Literature, 3 vols. ; the finely-illustrated Monograph on the Electress Sophia, in the Goupil series ; Morley's Life of Gladstone, 3 vols. ; Gardiner's English Commonwealth, 3 vols. ; Christ and His Mother, in Italian Art, by Julia Cartwright ; and the fine work on Representative Art of Our Time, issued by the publishers of *The Studio*.

The Free Lectures have maintained their popularity throughout the past winter season, and have attracted large audiences on every occasion. The Committee would here tender their cordial thanks to the Lecturers, many of whom have cheerfully given their services for a number of years in succession ; they also desire gratefully to acknowledge the valuable services rendered by Mr. A. B. COLEMAN, who for six years past has voluntarily undertaken the work of the Lantern in connection with the Lectures. A new experiment, somewhat in the same direction, has recently been commenced at the Branch Library, in the occasional delivery of Half-Hour Talks, in the Reading Room, on the Books in the Library.

In the ensuing Tables of Issues, Financial Statement, and other Statistics, the year's work is set out in detail.

JOHN HARVEY, M.D., J.P., *Chairman*.

ROBERT K. DENT, *Chief Librarian*.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

(Opened January 4th, 1882, with 2,300 volumes.)

Number of Volumes in the Reference Department, MARCH 31st, 1904.

			Plans.	Vols.	Pamphlets.	Total.
General Knowledge (Encyclopædias, Periodicals, etc.)			—	827	5	832
Philosophy	...	...	—	117	1	118
Religion	...	...	—	531	21	552
Sociology	...	...	—	212	93	305
Philology	...	...	—	123	17	140
Natural Science	...	...	—	719	29	748
Useful Arts (including Patent Abridgments)	...	...	—	1500	17	1517
Fine Arts	...	...	—	829	22	851
Literature—						
(a) General Literature	...	...	—	493	29	522
(b) Poetry and the Drama	...	...	—	504	—	504
(c) Prose Fiction	...	...	—	177	—	177
History—						
(a) General History	...	...	—	1078	7	1086
(b) Geography, Travel and Topography	...	...	—	645	32	677
(c) Biography	...	...	—	525	16	541
(d) Local Books (Birmingham & Aston)	...	...	54	297	435	786
Total			54	8577	724	9355
<hr/>						
Contents of Reference Library,						
March 31st, 1903	...	...	54	8304	681	9039
Number of Vols. added during 1903-4	...	...	...	...	...	316
					Total	9355

Classification of Volumes consulted in the Reference Department during the year ending March 31st, 1904.

General Knowledge	...	...	...	...	7584
Philosophy	...	...	...	...	260
Religion	...	...	...	...	1195
Sociology	...	...	...	...	451
Philology	...	...	...	...	1382
Natural Science	...	...	...	...	683
Useful Arts	...	...	...	...	619
Fine Arts	...	...	...	...	1175
Literature—					
(a) General Literature	...	...	...	...	560
(b) Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	...	617
(c) Prose Fiction	...	...	...	...	239
History—					
(a) General History	...	...	...	...	684
(b) Geography, Travel and Topography	...	...	...	...	838
(c) Biography	...	...	...	...	694
(d) Local Books	...	...	...	...	283
					17264
Number of days open (reckoning Thursdays as half-days)					281
Daily Average	...	...	...	...	61.4

Principal Additions to the Library

DURING THE YEAR.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

The Business Encyclopædia, by W. S. M. Knight, 6 vols.

Human Personality after Death, by F. W. H. Myers, 2 vols. ; The Martyrdom of Man, by Winwood Reade ; The Synthetic Philosophy of Herbert Spencer, 5 vols.

Trade Relations of the British Empire, by J. W. Root ; The Housing Handbook, by W. Thompson.

English Dialect Dictionary, vol. 5 (in continuation).

Elements of Architectural Engineering (Scranton), 3 vols. ; Modern English Art (The "Studio" Library) ; Christ and His Mother in Italian Art, by J. Cartwright ; Happy England ; Pictures by Mrs. Allingham ; The Vicar of Wakefield, illustrated by W. Mulready ; F. C. Gould's Caricatures for 1903.

English Literature, by R. Garnett and E. Gosse, 4 vols. ; Poetical Works of Robert Buchanan, 2 vols. ; Œuvres de Alfred De Musset ; The Vita Nuova of Dante (Italian and English).

The Cambridge Modern History, vols. 2 and 8 (The Reformation, and the United States) ; The English Commonwealth, by S. R. Gardiner, 3 vols. and Supplement ; The Elertress Sophia, by A. W. Ward (Goupil series) ; Newman's Lives of the English Saints, 6 vols. ; New Letters of Jane Welsh Carlyle, 2 vols. ; My Relations with Carlyle, by J. A. Froude ; The Nemesis of Froude, by Sir J. Crichton Browne and Alex. Carlyle ; The Reign of Queen Anne, by J. McCarthy, 2 vols.

The Uganda Protectorate, by Sir H. Johnson, 2 vols. ; The Expansion of Egypt, by A. S. White.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Studies in Psychical Reseach, by F. Podmore ; Enigmas of Life, by W. R. Greg ; Miracles of Unbelief, by F. Ballard ; The Gospel of Jesus Christ, by Dr. Parker ; Story of the Bible Society, by W. Canton, etc.

Life of W. E. Gladstone, by J. Morley, 3 vols. ; Portraits of the Sixties, by J. McCarthy ; Random Reminiscences, by Brookfield ; Studies in Contemporary Biography, by J. Bryce ; Life of Arthur Balfour, by B. Alderson ; Life of T. H. Huxley, 3 vols., etc.

Peeps at Parliament, by H. W. Lucy ; America at Work, by J. F. Fraser ; The New Siberia, by J. F. Fraser ; The Great Siberian Railway, by M. M. Shoemaker ; Queer Things about Japan, by D. Sladen ; Mediæval England, by M. Bateson ; Over Fen and Wold, by J. J. Hissey ; Through Ten English Counties, by J. J. Hissey ; The Book of Dartmoor, by S. Baring Gould ; Highways and Byways in Sussex, by E. V. Lucas ; What to See in England, by Gordon Home, etc.

Line and Form, by W. Crane ; Home Mechanics for Amateurs, by G. M. Hopkins ; Steel and Iron, by A. H. Hiorns ; Electrical Engineering, by Rosenberg ; Spon's Workshop Receipts, 5 vols. : Home Carpentry ; Fresh Water Aquaria, by G. C. Bateman ; Romance of Modern Invention, by Williams ; Natural Law in Terrestrial Phenomena, by Digby ; The Moon, by Nasmyth and Carpenter ; Nature Curious and Beautiful, by R. Kerr ; The Sea Shore, by W. Furneaux ; Microscopic Nature, by R. Kearton, etc.

The Five Nations, by Rudyard Kipling ; England's Darling, by A. Austin ; Ballads, by John Masefield ; Rio Grande's Last Race, etc., by A. B. Paterson.

119 Volumes of Recent Fiction, by Popular Authors.

For Better, For Worse, by G. W. E. Russell ; A Londoner's Log-Book, by G. W. E. Russell ; Sea Wrack, by F. T. Bullen ; Letters from a Self-Made Man to his Son, by G. H. Lorimer ; Historical Studies, and Stray Studies, by J. R. Green ; Famous Hymns and their Authors, by F. A. Jones, etc.

53 Volumes of Magazines and Reviews, bound from the current issues.

40 Volumes of Recent Juvenile Literature.

Story of the Organ, by C. F. Abdy Williams ; The Apostles by Elgar ; Merrie England (Comic Opera), by E. German ; The Toreador (Musical Play), by Caryll and Monckton ; The Country Girl (Musical Play), by L. Monckton.



LENDING DEPARTMENT.

(Opened Feb. 4th, 1878, with 2,700 volumes.)

NUMBER OF VOLUMES IN THE LENDING LIBRARY

MARCH 31st, 1904.

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	517
Biography, History, Topography, Voyages and Travels	...	...	...	1373
Sociology	...	...	...	110
Arts and Sciences and Natural History	...	...	...	783
Games, Sports and Recreations	...	...	...	36
Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	347
Prose Fiction	...	...	...	4020
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	1049
Magazines and Reviews	...	...	...	1887
* Music	...	...	...	342
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	817
Total				11,281
Total of Lending Department, March 31st, 1903				11,058
Deduct by vols. worn out and not replaced, 70; and transferred to Branch Library, 14				84
Number of vols. added during the year				10,974
				307
				11,281

* i.e., *Musical Compositions*: works on the History and Theory of Music, Exercises, etc., are counted in the Arts and Sciences Class.

GRAND TOTAL OF ISSUES, 1878-1903,

From the Lending and References Libraries.

Year Ending	Central Lending	Branch Lending	Reference
March, 1879	75,036	—	...
„ 1880	70,914	—	...
„ 1881	67,583	—	...
„ 1882	66,092	—	2,109
„ 1883	75,395	—	8,096
„ 1884	69,247	—	11,041
„ 1885	77,219	—	12,380
„ 1886	73,368	—	14,599
„ 1887	94,979	—	16,208
„ 1888	91,761	—	16,769
„ 1889	82,605	—	14,199
„ 1890	67,467	—	16,616
„ 1891	67,692	—	18,485
„ 1892	77,621	—	15,311
„ 1893	81,319	—	12,012
„ 1894	84,026	—	12,599
„ 1895	82,036	—	14,967
„ 1896	87,100	—	12,409
„ 1897	67,593	—	10,401
„ 1898	62,874	—	11,287
„ 1899	63,682	—	10,959
„ 1900	72,724	—	10,698
„ 1901	80,150	—	14,309
„ 1902	82,032	—	14,114
„ 1903	90,051	—	15,849
„ 1904	87,545	8,291	17,264
	1,998,111	8,291	302,681

Grand Total of Issues in both Departments since the opening
of the Library 2,309,083.

DATE.	Religion and Philosophy.	Biography, History, Travel, etc.	Sociology.	Arts, Sciences, and Natural History.	Poetry and the Drama.	Fiction.	Miscellaneous Literature.	Magazines.	Juvenile Books.	Unbound Periodicals.	Renewals.	Music.	Total.
1903.													
April ...	34	181	7	155	35	4003	185	458	1117	20	615	208	7018
May ...	35	223	5	118	31	4289	196	479	1195	28	784	229	7612
June ...	35	143	9	96	21	4045	136	350	1081	21	722	196	6855
July ...	37	152	3	105	33	4101	164	380	1081	21	772	166	7015
August ...	32	136	2	116	28	4036	136	350	924	19	512	168	6459
September ...	41	170	8	144	51	4601	165	390	1098	16	590	217	7491
October ...	41	151	6	157	47	4714	177	444	1155	13	649	228	7785
November ...	49	156	9	155	51	4326	176	460	1227	45	661	216	7531
December ...	40	121	8	141	31	3812	155	458	1083	19	635	240	6743
1904.													
January ...	50	132	11	191	58	4410	152	522	1174	21	691	257	7669
February ...	51	150	3	168	21	4244	133	489	1184	27	682	255	7497
March ...	45	149	2	173	21	4713	152	474	1253	25	725	228	7960
TOTALS ...	490	1867	73	1719	428	51294	1927	5254	13572	275	8038	2608	87545

The Library was closed on Thursdays at Two o'clock. These days are reckoned, therefore, as half-days only.
Number of days open, 280. Daily Average, 310.9.

CENTRAL READING ROOMS.

(Opened January 4th, 1882.)

LIST of NEWSPAPERS and PERIODICALS.

Those Marked thus are presented by the Publishers.*

DAILY.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily Mail
„ Daily Gazette (3)	„ Daily News
„ Daily Mail (3)	„ Daily Telegraph
„ Daily Post (4)	„ Morning Leader
London Daily Chronicle	„ Standard
„ Daily Graphic	„ Times

WEEKLY.

Athenæum	*Journal of the Society of Arts
Baptist *	*Lincoln and Stamford Mercury
*Belfast Weekly News	Literary World
Birmingham (East) News	Liverpool Weekly Post
*Birmingham Owl	*Local Government Chronicle
Birmingham Weekly Mercury	M.A.P.
Birmingham Weekly Post	Methodist Recorder
Black and White	*Midland Counties Herald
*Board of Trade Journal	*Motor Cycle
British Weekly	Nature
Building News	Notes and Queries
Bystander	Pall Mall Gazette (Saturday Edition)
*Cambrian News	*Patents: Illustrated Official Journal
Christian World	Phonetic Journal
Church Family Newspaper	Public Opinion
*Civil Service Aspirant	Punch
*Civil Service Weekly	Queen
Contract Journal	Saturday Review
*Co-Operative News	School Board Chronicle
*Drapers' Record	Scientific American
Dublin Freeman's Journal	Scotsman
Electrical Review	Sketch
Electrician	Speaker
Engineer	Spectator
Engineering	Sphere
English Mechanic	T.P.'s Weekly
Examiner	Tablet
Field	To-Day
Garden	Truth
Gardening	*University Correspondent
Gentlewoman	*Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser
*Gloucestershire Chronicle	
Graphic	*Western Weekly News
Guardian	Westminster Gazette (Saturday Edn)
Harper's Weekly	Westminster Budget
*Hereford Times	*Worcester Journal (Berrow's)
Illustrated London News	Work
Inquirer	Yorkshire Post

MONTHLY.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Animals' Friend Architectural Review *Arms and Explosives Art Journal *Birmingham King Edward's School Chronicle Blackwood's Magazine Bookman Burlington Magazine Cassell's Magazine Century Magazine Chambers' Journal Contemporary Review Cornhill Magazine *Educational Review *Educational Times English Illustrated Magazine *Forester's Miscellany Fortnightly Review Good Words Harper's Monthly Magazine *Humanitarian Idler *Insurance Agent and Review *Journal of the Incorporated Society of Musicians Knowledge *Labour Gazette Leisure Hour Library Association Record | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library World London Magazine Macmillan's Magazine Magazine of Art Monthly Review *Musical Herald Musical Times New Church Magazine Nineteenth Century and After *Our Own Gazette (Y.W.C.A.) Pall Mall Magazine Pearson's Magazine *Philatelic Chronicle Photogram Quiver *Registrar General's List of Deceased Seamen Review of Reviews Strand Magazine Sunday at Home Sunday Magazine Technics Temple Bar *Travel *University Correspondent *Vegetarian Messenger Wide World Magazine Windsor Magazine Woman at Home *Zoophilist |
|--|--|

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bradshaw's Railway Guide *Everybody's Time Table *Great Western Railway *Hammond's Railway Guide | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Midland Railway *Midland Railway (Local Services) *White & Pike's Railway Guide |
|---|--|

QUARTERLY, ETC.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birmingham Magazine *Emigrants' Information Circulars | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saint George : Journal of the Birmingham Ruskin Society |
|--|---|

ANNUAL.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academy Notes *The ABC Press Directory Birmingham Society of Artists' Catalogues *Calendar of Birmingham University *Calendar of Durham University Daily Mail Year Book Directories (Birmingham, London, Liverpool, Manchester, etc.) Financial Reform Almanack Hazell's Annual Index to Periodicals (Review of Reviews) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library Association Year Book Literary Year Book Low's English Catalogue ; Annual Supplement *Macdonald's English Directory Municipal Year Book *Stubbs's Directory Studio Extra Numbers *Transactions of the Archæological Section, Midland Institute Whitaker's Almanack The Year's Art |
|---|--|

BRANCH LIBRARY, ASTON CROSS.

Old Reading Room opened October 6th, 1883;

New Building Opened, Oct. 30th, 1903 ; Lending Department Dec. 14th, 1903.

NUMBER OF VOLUMES, MARCH, 31st, 1904—

Religion and Philosophy ...	...	...	...	...	60
Biography, History, Travels, etc.	...	...	...	...	194
Sociology, Politics, etc.	...	...	...	...	13
Arts, Sciences and Natural History	...	...	...	...	98
Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	...	47
Fiction	...	...	...	...	684
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	...	49
Magazines	...	...	...	...	44
Music	...	...	...	...	75
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	...	144
					<u>1,408</u>
Books of Reference : Encyclopædias, Dictionaries, Concordances, etc.					56
TOTAL					<u><u>1,464</u></u>

TABLE OF ISSUES FROM BRANCH LIBRARY

December 14th, 1903, to March 31st, 1904.

DATE.	Religion and Philosophy	Biography, History and Travel.	Sociology.	Arts, Sciences and Natural History.	Poetry and Drama.	Prose, Fiction.	Miscellaneous Literature.	Magazines.	Juvenile Books.	Renewals.	Music.	TOTALS
1903 Dec. (14-31)	1	11		5	6	413	5	18	235	32	1	727
1904 January ...	8	71	1	44	19	1210	29	68	568	96	24	2138
February ..	12	79	2	65	8	1435	33	105	638	142	58	2576
March ...	6	95		52	12	1679	34	113	631	162	66	2850
TOTALS ..	27	256	3	166	45	1737	100	304	2072	432	149	8291

Number of Days Open 84 ; Daily Average, 98.

BRANCH READING ROOM, ASTON CROSS.

LIST of NEWSPAPERS and PERIODICALS.

*Those Marked thus * are presented by the Publishers.*

DAILY.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily News
„ Daily Gazette (3)	„ Daily Mail
„ Daily Mail (2)	„ Daily Telegraph
„ Daily Post (3)	„ Standard
London Daily Chronicle	

WEEKLY.

Athenæum (second week)	M A P.
*Birmingham (Easr) News	*Midland Counties Herald
*Birmingham Owl	*Phonetic Journal
Birmingham Weekly Mercury	Public Opinion
Birmingham Weekly Post	Punch
Cassell's Saturday Journal	Queen (second week)
Electrician (second week)	Saturday Review (second week)
Electrical Review (second week)	Scientific American (second week)
Engineer	Sketch (second week)
Engineering (second week)	Speaker (second week)
English Mechanic	Spectator (second week)
Field (second week)	Sphere (second week)
Gardening	To-day
Gentlewoman (second week)	T.P.'s Weekly
Graphic	Truth (second week)
Illustrated London News	Westminster Budget
Literary World	Work

MONTHLY.

Band of Hope Review (2)	Leisure Hour
Bradshaw's Railway Guide	London Magazine
British Workman	Longman's Magazine
Cassell's Magazine	Pearson's Magazine
Cornhill Magazine	Strand Magazine
Cottager and Artisan	Sunday at Home
English Illustrated Magazine	Windsor Magazine
Good Words	*Zoophilist
*Labour Gazette	

General Summary of the Work of the Library

In all its Departments during the Year ending March 31, 1904.

Total Number of Volumes in, and of Issues from, the Libraries —

	No. of Vols.	Issues during 1903-4.
Reference Library	9,355	17,264
Central Lending Library	11,281	87,545
Branch Library, Aston Cross... ..	1,464	8,291
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	22,100	113,100
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Estimated Total Attendance at the Thirteen Free Lectures	...	5,400
Number of Volumes added to the Reference Library	...	316
„ „ added to the Lending Library	...	307
„ „ purchased for the Branch Library	...	1,450
„ Notifications Paid for	...	176
„ Pence paid as Fines for Detention of Books	...	15,013
„ Worn-out Volumes Replaced	...	314
„ Books re-bound, bound from paper covers, or repaired by binder	...	578
„ Volumes of Periodicals bound (Reference and Lending)	...	74
Daily Average Issue, Reference	...	61.4
„ „ „ Central Lending	...	310.9
„ „ „ Branch Lending	...	98
Number of Borrowers' Tickets issued during the year, Central	...	1,362*
„ „ „ „ „ „ „ Branch	...	664*
Present Total of Borrowers using the Central Library, about	...	3,000
„ „ „ „ „ „ „ Branch	...	664

* Does not include the *Second Tickets* issued for Music.

FREE LECTURES.

THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL COURSE OF FREE LECTURES, delivered under the auspices of the Free Libraries Committee, consisted of thirteen Lectures. They were as follows :

1903.

- Oct. 6th. F. W. SAXBY, Esq.
"The Spider as an Engineer" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Oct. 20th. F. LAMBERT, Esq., F.R.G.S.
"The Marvels of the Subterranean World" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Nov. 3rd. A. C. TOWNSEND.
"Across the Alps with a Camera" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Nov. 17th. E. J. MOYLE, Esq.
"The Humours of Politics" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Dec. 1st. THE REV. T. F. NICHOLAS, M.A., F.R.G.S.
"Rome" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Dec. 15th. THE REV. CANON SUTTON, M.A.
"Pickwick."
- Dec. 29th. THE REV. N. T. LANGLEY, M.A.
"My Holiday with a Camera" (with Limelight Illustrations).

1904.

- Jan. 12th. W. CROWTHER, Esq.
"Thomas Hood."
- Jan. 26th. Miss MARY WIESON.
"Old English Ballads" (with Vocal Illustrations).
- Feb. 9th. THE REV. S. D. SCAMMELL, F.R.G.S.
"The Story of This and Other Worlds" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Feb. 23rd. C. A. WHITE, Esq., B.Sc.
"The Scenery of Switzerland" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- March 8th. J. POTTER BRISCOE, Esq., F.R.H.S.
"Across Denmark and Sweden" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- March 22nd. Mr. ROBERT K. DENT.
"Old and New Birmingham" (with Limelight Illustrations).

List of Donations to the Library

DURING THE YEAR.

ANDREW CARNEGIE, Esq.—

The sum of £1,950 for the Building of the Branch Library.

Anti-Vivisection Society—

The Zoophilist, monthly, as published.

Aston Manor Institutions, Report from—

Fire Brigade

Health Department

Medical Officer of Health

Nursing Institution

Education Committee

Technical School

Birmingham Free Libraries Committee (*per A. Capel Shaw, Esq.*)

Local and other Pamphlets.

Bibliographies: Abraham Lincoln and J. Paul Jones.

Birmingham and Midland Institute (*per A. Hayes, Esq.*)—

Archæological Section, Transactions of, for 1902.

Birmingham, University of—

Calendar, 1903-4.

Briscoe, J.P., Esq., F.R.S.L. (*the Author*)—

Curiosities of the Belfry.

Gleanings from God's Acre.

British Museum—

Catalogue of Additions to Manuscripts, 1894-9.

Subject-Index of Modern Works, vols. 2 and 3.

Catalogue of German and Flemish Woodcuts, vol. 1.

Catalogue of the Frauds Collection of Bookplates, vol. 1.

Catalogue of English Pottery.

Guides to the Exhibition Galleries, the Egyptian Rooms, Early Christian Antiquities, etc.

British Museum (Natural History)—

Report on Economic Geology.

Catalogue of Madreporaria, vol. 4.

Catalogue of Birds' Eggs, vol. 3.

Catalogue of Lepidoptera Phalænæ (and plates), vol. 4.

Hand-List of Birds, vol. 4.

Catalogue of the Library, vol. 1.

Canada, The Agent General of—

Large Map of Canada.

Canterbury, The Mayor and Corporation of—

Canterbury: a History and Guide.

Cape Colony, Government of—

Cape Colony for the Settler.

Durham, University of—

Calendar, 1903-4.

Engineering, The Publishers of—

Three Works unbound, viz.:

Modern French Artillery.

Engineering at the Columbian Exhibition.

The Yosemite, Alaska, and the Yellowstone

Farrer, The Dowager Lady—

Free Trade *versus* Fair Trade, by Lord Farrer.

Fox, Mr. T.—

Annals of Cricket.

Head, Brandon, Esq. (*the Author*)—

The Food of the Gods (Cocoa and its Preparation.)

Kent, Mr. F.—

From Parish School to University, by G. A. Craig.

Libraries (Public) Reports, Catalogues, &c, from—

Aberdeen, Ashton-under-Lyne, Barrow-in-Furness, Battersea, Bebington, Belfast, Birmingham, Blackburn, Bootle, Bradford, Brierley Hill, Brighton, Bristol, Bury, Buxton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Chelsea, Chorley, Cork, Croydon, Derby, Ealing, Eastbourne, Finsbury, Glasgow (Stirling's), Gloucester, Gosport, Hammersmith, Hanley, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kimberley S.A., Leeds, Leyton, Lincoln, Liverpool, Longton, Loughborough, Malvern Manchester, New York, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Nottingham, Oldbury, Penarth, Perth, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Richmond, St. George's (Hanover Square), St. Helen's, Salford, Shoreditch, Smethwick, Southampton, Stepney (Whitechapel), Stockport, Tottenham, Tynemouth, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Waterloo - with - Seaforth, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, West Ham, Westminster, Wigan, Willesden (Kilburn), Willesden (Harlesden), Wimbledon, Worcester, Great Yarmouth, York.

London, The Corporation of the City of—

Calendar of Letter Books of the City (Edw. II. and III.), vol. 4.

London University Correspondence College—

Calendar, 1903-4.

Patent Office, The—

Illustrated Journal of Patents, weekly, as published.

Abridgments of Specifications, 1867-76, 1877-83, as published.

Religious Tract Society, The (for Branch Library)—

About Fifty Volumes of their Publications, including Foxe's Acts and Monuments, 8 vols.

Sawyer, Sir James, M.D.—

Contributions to Practical Medicine, Fourth Edition.

Society of Arts, The—

The Sri-Bāshya of Rāmānujāchārya (Translated), vol. I.

Journal of the Society of Arts, weekly, as published.

Smithsonian Institution—

Annual Report, 1901-2, 2 vols.

Stubb's Publishing Co., Ltd.—

Stubb's Mercantile Directory, 1904.

Vegetarian Society—

Vegetarian Messenger, monthly, as published.

Also the Newspapers and Periodicals (from their respective Publishers) marked thus * in the lists on pp. 11, 13.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the Year ending March 31st, 1904.

Income.		Expenditure.	
1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
April 1st.—To Balance in hand ...	£ s. d. 456 3 2	By Salaries ...	£ s. d. 299 2 11
March 31.—To Rate at 1d. in the £ ...	903 15 0	Books ...	147 19 7
" Fines ...	62 11 1	Newspapers & Periodicals ...	85 9 8
" Catalogues ...	6 13 2	Bookbinding ...	54 8 1
" Re-sales and Damages ...	7 16 8	Printing ...	32 5 5
" Advertisements in Catalogue ...	2 0 0	Cleaning, Fuel, and other	50 0 0
" Other Receipts ...	5 10 6	Establishment Charges	35 16 0
" Donation from	50 0 0	Electric Light and Gas	18 5 5
Mr. G. H. Jack ...	134 11 5	Repairs and Sundries ...	723 7 1
Advertisements in Lecture	3 12 6	<i>Total Central Library</i>	55 10 10
Programme ...		Free Lectures Expenses	
		<i>BRANCH LIBRARY.</i>	
		Salaries ...	27 1 8
		Books ...	168 9 4
		Newspapers & Periodicals ...	25 2 2
		Bookbinding ...	20 9 2
		Printing ...	16 11 6
		Light, Fuel and Cleaning	16 11 6
		Repairs and Sundries ...	9 13 7
		Rent, Rates, Taxes, etc.	22 16 1
		<i>Total Branch Library</i>	306 15 0
		Balance in hand ...	412 9 2
			<u>£1498 2 1</u>

42
57R 1904/05



Borough of Aston Manor

TWENTY-SEVENTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Free Libraries Committee,

APRIL 1st, 1904, TO MARCH 31st, 1905.

Aston Manor:

PRINTED FOR THE FREE LIBRARIES COMMITTEE
BY PERCIVAL JONES LTD., EDMUND STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

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BOROUGH OF ASTON MANOR.



Free Libraries Committee.

1903-4.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN FREDK. SMITH, J.P.)
DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P., *Chairman*.
COUNCILLOR T. P. BIRD.
COUNCILLOR H. GUEST.
COUNCILLOR A. HARRIS.
COUNCILLOR S. A. PARKES.
COUNCILLOR F. S. TOMEY.
MR. SIDNEY FISHER.
THE REV. G. E. PRICE.
THE REV. E. DALE ROBERTS, M.A.
MR. WILLIAM UNITE.

1904-5.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN ALFRED TAYLOR, J.P.)
COUNCILLOR H. GUEST, *Chairman*.
COUNCILLOR T. P. BIRD.
COUNCILLOR F. GOODRICH.
COUNCILLOR A. HARRIS.
COUNCILLOR J. C. TILLOTSON.
MR. SIDNEY FISHER.
DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P., *Chairman of Book Sub-Committee*.
THE REV. G. E. PRICE.
THE REV. E. DALE ROBERTS, M.A.
MR. WILLIAM UNITE.

Hon. Sec.—MR. JOSEPH ANSELL, J.P., *Town Clerk*.
Assistant Hon. Sec.—MR. WILLIAM THOMPSON, *Deputy Town Clerk*.
Chief Librarian—MR. ROBERT K. DENT.
Assistant Librarian—MR. T. J. NEWELL.
Attendant and Caretaker at Branch Library—
MR. T. LOVEROCK.

Past Chairmen of the Free Libraries Committee.

1877-78. MR. EDWARD EVANS.
1878-83. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.
1883-87. REV. FREDERICK SMITH, M.A.
1887-90. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.
1890-94. MR. JAMES OSBORNE.
1895-96. COUNCILLOR W. UNITE.
1896-97. COUNCILLOR W. E. COOKE.
1897-1900. COUNCILLOR H. GUEST.
1900-03. COUNCILLOR S. FISHER.
1903-04. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.

REPORT.

*

The Free Libraries Committee have pleasure in presenting the Twenty-seventh Annual Report on the Work of the Libraries.

The year has been one of quiet progress in the various departments. It is with great pleasure that the Committee find that, notwithstanding the opening of the Branch Library, the issues from the Central Library show an increase over last year of nearly 2,500, while 31,370 volumes have been issued from the Branch, making a total of issues from the Lending Departments of 121,274. This is nearly 30,000 in excess of any year prior to the opening of the Branch, thus showing that the new Library is reaching a circle of readers hitherto untouched.

The Reference Library continues to be largely used; the issues from this department also show an increase over last year, the total being 17,604. If to this were added the number of consultations of Reference Books at the Branch, the total number would probably exceed 20,000; so that the total issues of the Lending and Reference Libraries amount to over 140,000 volumes.

The additions to the Reference Library during the year include many standard works in practical science, in the newest editions, among others the new edition of Thompson's "Dynamo Electric Machinery"; Preston's Theory of Light and Heat; Poynting and Thomson's Text-Books of Physics, and Bauer and Spencer's "Precious Stones." Among other important additions mention should be made of Menpes' "Whistler as I knew him"; the Oxford Facsimile of the First Folio Edition of Shakespeare; the Monograph on "James I. and VI." in the Goupil series; the Survey Atlas of England and Wales, by Bartholomew; and the first volume of "Warwickshire," in the Victoria History of the Counties of England.

An important change has been made during the year, whereby the Libraries and Reading Rooms are no longer closed to the public on Thursday afternoons. The time of opening and closing is now the same on that day as on others.

The Free Lectures continue to maintain their popularity, attracting crowded audiences on every occasion. In addition to the fourteen lectures delivered at the Albert Hall, by various lecturers, seven popular talks, or One-hour Lectures, have been delivered by the Chief Librarian in the Branch Reading Room, most of them being illustrated by means of the Lantern. These have also been well attended, the audiences increasing as the series proceeded, so that on the last two occasions it was impossible to accommodate all who wished to be present. The Committee here tender their thanks to the Lecturers and to the Chief Librarian, and also to Mr. A. B. COLEMAN, who has again rendered voluntary service as Lantern-operator, both at Albert Hall and at the Branch.

The munificent bequest of £1,000 by the late Mr. WILLIAM ANSELL, to which reference was made in the last Report, has been received during the year, but pending further consideration as to the extension of the Central Library, no disposal has been made of any portion of this amount. It will be remembered that, by the terms of this bequest, it is "to be used for the benefit of the Library in such a manner as His Worship the Mayor (for the time being) and the Town Clerk may deem advisable."

In the ensuing Records of Issues, Financial Statement, and other statistics, the year's work is set out in detail.

HENRY GUEST, *Chairman.*

ROBERT K. DENT, *Chief Librarian.*

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

(Opened January 4th, 1882, with 2,300 volumes.)

Number of Volumes in the Reference Department, March 31st, 1905.

	Plans.	Vols.	Pamphlets.	Total.
General Knowledge (Encyclopædias, Periodicals, etc.)	—	858	5	863
Philosophy	—	117	1	118
Religion	—	545	27	572
Sociology	—	218	94	312
Philology	—	124	17	141
Natural Science	—	749	29	778
Useful Arts (including Patent Abridgments)	—	1508	17	1525
Fine Arts	—	859	22	881
Literature—				
(a) General Literature	—	508	29	537
(b) Poetry and the Drama	—	523	—	523
(c) Prose Fiction	—	177	—	177
History—				
(a) General History	—	1088	8	1096
(b) Geography, Travel, and Topography	—	665	32	697
(c) Biography	—	536	20	556
(d) Local Books (Birmingham & Aston)	54	307	437	798
Total	54	8712	737	9573
Contents of Reference Library, March 31st, 1904	54	8577	724	9355
Number of Vols. added during 1904-5 ... ..	...	...	...	218
Total				9573

Classification of Volumes consulted in the Reference Department during the year ending March 31st, 1905.

General Knowledge ... ..	...	...	...	7038
Philosophy ... ..	...	...	...	237
Religion... ..	...	...	...	1189
Sociology ... ..	...	...	...	467
Philology ... ..	...	...	...	1303
Natural Science ... ..	...	...	...	869
Useful Arts ... ..	...	...	...	875
Fine Arts ... ..	...	...	...	1229
Literature—				
(a) General Literature ... ..	...	...	...	710
(b) Poetry and the Drama ... ..	...	...	...	748
(c) Prose Fiction ... ..	...	...	...	312
History—				
(a) General History ... ..	...	...	...	801
(b) Geography, Travel and Topography ... ..	...	...	...	910
(c) Biography ... ..	...	...	...	690
(d) Local Books ... ..	...	...	...	226
				17604
Number of days open ... ..	...	...	...	303
Daily Average ... ..	...	...	...	58.2

Principal Additions to the Library during the Year.

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Hastings's Dictionary of the Bible, extra volume; Newman's "Apologia," *first edition*, with the preliminary pamphlets in the controversy; Cheyne on Isaiah; the Sarum Missal in English; The Old Service Books of the English Church, by Wordsworth and Littlehales; Christian Institutions, by A. P. Stanley; The Religious Life of London, by R. Mudie Smith; Monastic Life in England, by F. A. Gasquet; Life of Jesus the Christ, by H. W. Beecher, 2 vols.

The Native and Northern Tribes of Central Australia, by Spencer and Gillen, 2 vols.; Native Tribes of South-West Australia, by A. W. Howitt.

Sowerby's English Botany, vol. 12. and Supplement; Poynting and Thomson's Text-Book of Physics: Light and Sound, 2 vols.; Preston's Theory of Light; Preston's Theory of Heat; Ball's Story of the Heavens, new edition; The Evolution of Earth Structure, by T. M. Reade.

Bauer and Spencer's Precious Stones; The Art of the Goldsmith and Jeweller, by T. Wigley; Practical Masonry, by W. R. Purchase; Text-Book of Mechanical Engineering, by W. J. Lineham.

Whistler As I Knew Him, by M. Menpes, special edition; Venice, by M. Menpes; Paris, by T. Okey; English Illustration in the "Sixties," by Gleeson White; Turner's Liber Studiorum (re-issue); Shrines of British Saints, by J. C. Wall; Celtic Art, Pagan and Christian, by J. R. Allen.

Literary Anecdotes, 19th Century, by Nicoll and Wise, 2 vols.; Dictionary of the Drama, by W. D. Adams, vol. 1; The Oxford Facsimile of the First Folio Shakespeare, with Census of Copies, by S. Lee; Swinburne's Collected Poems, 6 vols.; Watson's Collected Poems, 2 vols.; Palgrave's Golden Treasury of Songs and Lyrics, revised edition, *large paper*.

History of England, Early and Middle Ages, by C. H. Pearson, 2 vols.; James I. and VI., by T. F. Henderson (Goupil); The Cambridge Modern History, vols. 3 and 8; Records of Wroxall, by J. W. Ryland; Warwick Castle and its Earls, by Lady Warwick, 2 vols.; Parliament, Past and Present, by Wright and Smith; Victoria History of the County of Warwick, vol. 1; The Old Royal Palace of Whitehall, by E. Sheppard; Survey Atlas of England and Wales, by Bartholomew; In the Ice-World of the Himalayas, by F. B. and W. H. Workman; The Redemption of Egypt, by W. B. Worsfold.

The Creevy Papers, ed. by Sir H. Maxwell, 2 vols.; Sir F. C. Burnand's Records and Reminiscences, 2 vols.; Harry Furniss at Home (Further Reminiscences); Scottish Men of Letters, by H. G. Graham, etc.



LENDING LIBRARY.

The Evolution of Theology, by E. Caird, 2 vols.; Modern Spiritism, by J. G. Raupert, Text Book of Psychology, by W. James; Rome in Ireland, by M. McCarthy; Works by J. Brierley, 3 vols.; De Profundis, by Oscar Wilde.

Herbert Spencer's Autobiography, 2 vols. ; My Memoirs, by H. de Blowitz ; Lord Acton's Letters to Mary Gladstone ; "Literary Lives" Series, 3 vols. ; Life of "Edna Lyall," by J. M. Escreet ; Life of Dean Farrar, by his Son ; Grain or Chaff (Reminiscences), by E. Plowden.

The American Revolution, by Sir G. O. Trevelyan, 3 vols. ; Greater Russia, by Wirt Gerrare ; Handbook of Modern Japan, by E. W. Clement ; Ireland in the New Century, by Sir. H. Plunkett ; The Romance of Modern Exploration, by A. Williams ; The Hardy Country, by C. G. Harper.

Ruskin's Stones of Venice, 3 vols. ; Wood-Carving, by G. Jack ; Locomotive Engineering, by Pettigrew ; Gas, Oil, and Air Engines, by Donkin ; Romance of Modern Engineering, by A. Williams ; Naval Development of the Century, by Sir N. Barnaby ; Astronomy for Everybody, by S. Newcomb ; Recent Developments of Physical Science, by W. C. D. Whetham ; The Phase Rule and its Application, by Findlay ; Introduction to Physical Chemistry, by Ramsay ; Romance of the Animal World, by Selous.

A Channel Passage, by A. C. Swinburne ; The Sin of David, by Stephen Phillips ; A Harvest of Chaff, by O. Seemann ; The Golden Book of Coleridge ; Poems, by A. B. Paterson ; Absurd Ditties, by G. E. Farrow.

One hundred and fourteen volumes of recent Fiction.

The Making of English, by H. Bradley ; The French Revolution and English Literature, by E. Dowden ; Doctors and Their Work, by R. B. Carter ; Things Seen, by G. W. Steevens ; Pictures of Many Wars, by F. Villiers ; Literary Works of Jas. Smetham ; The Hymn-Book of the Modern Church, by A. E. Gregory ; English Men of Letters, 3 vols.

Forty-three vols. of Current Periodicals, bound from the monthly issues.

Bach's Organ Works, edited by Best and Turpin, 18 vols. ; The Methodist Tune Book, edited by Sir F. Bridge.

Thirty-one volumes of recent Juvenile Literature.



LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

Number of Volumes March 31st, 1905.

CENTRAL LIBRARY, WITTON ROAD.

(*Opened Feb. 4th, 1878, with 2,700 volumes.*)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	...	526
Biography, History, Topography, Voyages and Travels	...	...	...	...	1,403
Sociology	...	...	...	...	110
Arts and Sciences and Natural History	...	...	...	...	783
Games, Sports and Recreations	...	...	...	...	36
Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	...	347
Prose Fiction	...	...	...	...	4,020
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	...	1,049
Magazines and Reviews	...	...	...	...	1,887
*Music	...	...	...	...	342
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	...	817
Total					11,423
Total of Lending Department, March 31st, 1904					11,281
Deduct by vols. worn out and not replaced					148
					11,133
Number of vols. added during the year					290
					11,423

BRANCH LIBRARY, ASTON CROSS.

(*Lending Department opened December 14th, 1903.*)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	...	60
Biography, History, Travels, etc.	...	...	...	...	198
Sociology	...	...	...	...	14
Arts, Sciences and Natural History	...	...	...	...	99
Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	...	48
Fiction	...	...	...	...	774
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	...	51
Magazines	...	...	...	...	61
*Music	...	...	...	...	75
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	...	170
					1,550
Books of Reference : Encyclopædias, Dictionaries, Concordances, etc.					60
Total					1,610
Number of Volumes in the Library, March 31st, 1904					1,464
Number added during the year					146
					1,610

* *i.e., Musical Compositions* : works on the History and Theory of Music, Exercises, etc., are counted in the Arts and Sciences Class.

LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

STATISTICS OF ISSUES.

Classification of Volumes issued from the Lending Libraries during the year 1904=5.

	Central.	Branch.	Total.
Religion and Philosophy	492	110	602
Biography, History, Travel, etc. ...	1,708	698	2,406
Sociology	89	21	110
Arts, Sciences and Natural History	1,721	293	2,014
Poetry and the Drama	372	167	539
Prose Fiction	54,811	20,400	75,211
Miscellaneous Literature... ..	1,762	237	1,999
Magazines	4,862	942	5,804
Juvenile Books	15,068	5,863	20,931
Unbound Periodicals	333	—	333
Renewals	6,444	1,715	8,159
Music	2,252	924	3,176
	<u>89,904</u>	<u>31,370</u>	<u>121,274</u>

Monthly Totals, 1904=5.

	Central.	Branch.	Total.
April	6,963	2,633	9,596
May	7,301	2,714	10,015
June	6,795	2,498	9,293
July	6,838	2,428	9,266
August	6,653	2,272	8,925
September	7,001	2,470	9,471
October	7,648	2,800	10,448
November	7,508	2,802	10,310
December	7,861	2,547	10,408
January... ..	8,104	2,768	10,872
February	8,271	2,633	10,904
March	8,961	2,805	11,766
Totals	<u>89,904</u>	<u>31,370</u>	<u>121,274</u>

GRAND TOTAL OF ISSUES, 1878-1905,

From the Lending and Reference Libraries.

Year Ending		Central Lending		Branch Lending		Reference
March, 1879	...	75,036	...	—	...	—
„ 1880	...	70,914	..	—	...	—
„ 1881	...	67,583	...	—	...	—
„ 1882	...	66,092	...	—	...	2,109
„ 1883	...	75,395	...	—	...	8,096
„ 1884	...	69,247	...	—	...	11,041
„ 1885	...	77,219	...	—	...	12,380
„ 1886	...	73,368	...	—	...	14,599
„ 1887	...	94,979	...	—	...	16,208
„ 1888	...	91,761	...	—	...	16,769
„ 1889	...	82,605	...	—	...	14,199
„ 1890	...	67,467	...	—	...	16,616
„ 1891	...	67,692	...	—	...	18,485
„ 1892	...	77,621	...	—	...	15,311
„ 1893	...	81,319	...	—	...	12,012
„ 1894	...	84,026	...	—	...	12,599
„ 1895	...	82,036	...	—	...	14,967
„ 1896	...	87,100	...	—	...	12,409
„ 1897	...	67,593	...	—	...	10,401
„ 1898	...	62,874	...	—	...	11,287
„ 1899	...	63,682	...	—	...	10,959
„ 1900	...	72,724	...	—	...	10,698
„ 1901	...	80,150	...	—	...	14,309
„ 1902	...	82,032	..	—	...	14,114
„ 1903	...	90,051	...	—	...	15,849
„ 1904	...	87,545	...	8,291	...	17,264
„ 1905	...	89,904	...	31,370	...	17,604
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
		2,088,015		39,661		320,285
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

Grand Total of Issues in all Departments since the opening of
the Libraries... .. **2,447,961**

CENTRAL READING ROOMS.

(Opened January 4th, 1882.)

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those Marked thus * are presented by the Publishers.*

DAILY.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily Mail
Birmingham Daily Gazette (3)	„ Daily News
Birmingham Daily Mail (3)	„ Daily Telegraph
Birmingham Daily Post (4)	„ Morning Leader
London Daily Chronicle	„ Standard
„ Daily Graphic	„ Times

WEEKLY.

Athenæum	Illustrated London News
Baptist	Inquirer
*Belfast Weekly News	*Journal of the Society of Arts
Birmingham (East) News	Labour News
*Birmingham Owl	*Lincoln and Stamford Mercury
*Birmingham Pictorial and Dart	Liverpool Weekly Post
Birmingham Weekly Mercury	*Local Government Chronicle
Birmingham Weekly Post	M.A.P.
Black and White	Methodist Recorder
*Board of Trade Journal	*Midland Counties Herald
British Weekly	Nature
Building News	Notes and Queries
Bystander	*Patents: Illustrated Official Journal
*Cambrian News	Phonetic Journal
Christian World	Public Opinion
Church Family Newspaper	Punch
*Civil Service Aspirant	Queen
*Civil Service Weekly	Saturday Review
Contract Journal	School Government Chronicle
*Co-Operative News	Scientific American
*Drapers' Record	Scotsman
Dublin Freeman's Journal	Sketch
Electrical Review	Speaker
Electrician	Spectator
Engineer	Sphere
Engineering	T.P.'s Weekly
English Mechanic	Tablet
Examiner	To-Day
Field	Truth
Garden	*University Correspondent
Gardening	*Warwick and Warwickshire Advertiser
Gentlewoman	
*Gloucestershire Chronicle	*Western Weekly News
Graphic	Westminster Gazette (Sat. edition)
Guardian	*Worcester Journal (Berrow's)
Harper's Weekly	Work
*Hereford Times	Yorkshire Post

MONTHLY.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Animals' Friend Architectural Review *Arms and Explosives Art Journal *Birmingham King Edward's School Chronicle Blackwood's Magazine Bookman Burlington Magazine Captain, The Cassell's Magazine Century Magazine Chambers's Journal Contemporary Review Cornhill Magazine *Educational Review *Educational Times English Illustrated Magazine *Forester's Miscellany Fortnightly Review Good Words Harper's Monthly Magazine *Humanitarian Idler *Insurance Agent and Review *Journal of the Incorporated Society of Musicians Knowledge *Labour Gazette Leisure Hour Library Association Record Library World | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literary World London Magazine Macmillan's Magazine Monthly Review *Musical Herald Musical Times New Church Magazine Nineteenth Century and After *Our Own Gazette (Y.W.C.A.) Pall Mall Magazine Pearson's Magazine *Philatelic Chronicle Photogram *Plumber and Decorator Quiver *Registrar General's List of Deceased Seamen Review of Reviews *State Correspondent Strand Magazine Sunday at Home Sunday Magazine Technics Temple Bar *Travel *University Correspondent *Vegetarian Messenger Wide World Magazine Windsor Magazine Woman at Home *Zoophilist |
|---|--|

RAILWAY TIME TABLES

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bradshaw's Railway Guide *Everybody's Time Table *Great Western Railway | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Hammond's Railway Guide *Midland Railway *White & Pike's Railway Guide |
|---|---|

QUARTERLY, ETC.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birmingham Magazine *Emigrants' Information Circulars | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saint George: Journal of the Birmingham Ruskin Society |
|--|--|

ANNUAL.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academy Notes *The ABC Press Directory Birmingham Red Book Birmingham Society of Artists' Catalogues *Calendar of Birmingham University *Calendar of Durham University Daily Mail Year Book Directories (Birmingham, London, Liverpool, Manchester, etc.) Financial Reform Almanack Hazell's Annual | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library Association Year Book Literary Year Book Low's English Catalogue; Annual Supplement Municipal Year Book *Stubbs's Directory Studio Extra Numbers *Transactions of the Archæological Section, Midland Institute Whitaker's Almanack The Year's Art |
|--|---|

BRANCH READING ROOM,

ASTON CROSS.

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those Marked thus * are presented by the Publishers.*

DAILY.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily News
Birmingham Daily Gazette (2)	London Daily Mail
Birmingham Daily Mail (2)	London Daily Telegraph
Birmingham Daily Post (4)	London Standard
London Daily Chronicle	

WEEKLY.

Athenæum (second week)	M.A.P.
*Birmingham (East) News	*Midland Counties Herald
*Birmingham Owl	*Phonetic Journal
Birmingham Weekly Mercury	Public Opinion
Birmingham Weekly Post	Punch
Cassell's Saturday Journal	Queen (second week)
Electrician (second week)	Saturday Review (second week)
Electrical Review (second week)	Scientific American (second week)
Engineer	Sketch (second week)
Engineering (second week)	Speaker (second week)
English Mechanic	Spectator (second week)
Field (second week)	Sphere (second week)
Garden	To-day
Gardening	T. P.'s Weekly
Gentlewoman (second week)	Truth (second week)
Graphic	Westminster Gazette (Saturday ed.)
Illustrated London News	Work
Labour News	

MONTHLY.

Band of Hope Review (2)	Literary World
Bradshaw's Railway Guide	London Magazine
British Workman	Longman's Magazine
Captain, The	Pall Mall Magazine
Cassell's Magazine	Pearson's Magazine
Chambers's Journal	Strand Magazine
Cottager and Artisan	Sunday at Home
English Illustrated Magazine	Windsor Magazine
Good Words	Woman at Home
*Labour Gazette	*Zoophilist
Leisure Hour	

GENERAL SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE LIBRARY

In all its Departments during the Year ending March 31st, 1905.

Total Number of Volumes in, and of Issues from, the Libraries:—

	No of Vols.	Issues during 1904-5.
Reference Library	9,573	17,604
Central Lending Library	11,423	89,904
Branch Library, Aston Cross	1,610	31,370
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	22,606	138,878
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Estimated Total Attendance at the Fourteen Free Lectures ...		5,600
" " " " Seven Branch Library Lectures		800
Number of Volumes added to the Reference Library		218
" " added to the Central Lending Library		290
" " added to the Branch Library		146
" Notifications paid for		152
" Pence paid as Fines for Detention of Books (Central) ...		13,182
" " " " " " (Branch) ...		3,649
" Worn-out Volumes Replaced		262
" Books re-bound, bound from paper covers, or repaired by binder		739
" Volumes of Periodicals bound (Reference and Lending)		84
Daily Average Issue, Reference		58'2
" " " Central Lending		297'7
" " " Branch Lending... ..		103'7
Number of Borrowers' Tickets issued during the year, Central ...		2,609*
" " " " " " Branch ...		464*
Present Total of Borrowers using the Central Library, about ...		3,300
" " " " Branch " ...		800

* Does not include the *Second Tickets* issued for Music.

FREE LECTURES.

THE TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL COURSE OF FREE LECTURES, delivered under the auspices of the FREE LIBRARIES COMMITTEE, consisted of fourteen Lectures. They were as follows:—

1904.

- Sept. 27th. H. CROWTHER, ESQ., F.R.M.S.
 "The Scenery, People and Legends of Cornwall" (with
 Limelight Illustrations).
- Oct. 11th. F. W. SAXBY, ESQ.
 "Marvels of Insect Life" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Oct. 15th. E. W. EDWARDS, ESQ.
 "Ceylon, and its People" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Nov. 8th. MISS MARY WILSON.
 "Thomas Moore: His Life and Ballads" (with Vocal
 Illustrations).
- Nov. 22nd. G. E. THOMPSON, ESQ.
 "Pictures from Portugal" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Dec. 6th. F. LAMBERT, ESQ., F.R.G.S.
 "Parliament: Its Romance and Reality" (with Limelight
 Illustrations).
- Dec. 20th. THE REV. CANON SUTTON, M.A.
 "Charles Dickens' 'Old Curiosity Shop.'"

1905.

- Jan. 3rd. THE REV. W. H. BOOTH, F.R.G.S.
 "A Midwinter Trip to Madeira" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Jan. 17th. THE REV. H. J. SUGDEN.
 "The Isle of Man: Its Scenery, Homes and People" (with
 Limelight Illustrations).
- Jan. 31st. W. H. WHITEHOUSE, ESQ., M.I.E.E.
 "Telegraphs: Past, Present and Future" (with Limelight
 Illustrations).
- Feb. 14th. L. CHALLENGER, ESQ.
 "Rudyard Kipling, the Singer of 'The Seven Seas.'"
- Feb. 28th. W. H. SHRUBSOLE, ESQ., F.G.S.
 "America's Wonderland: The Yellowstone National Park"
 (with Limelight Illustrations).
- March 14th. REV. JAMES WYLIE.
 "Irish and Scotch Humour, in Literature and in Life."
- March 28th. CAPTAIN W. J. P. BENSON, F.R.G.S.
 "To the Southern Pacific over the Andes" (with Limelight
 Illustrations).

Popular Talks in the Branch Reading Room, ASTON CROSS,

Seven Popular Talks, or One Hour Lectures, were delivered by the Chief Librarian in the Branch Reading Room, commencing each evening at nine and concluding at ten o'clock. They were as follows:—

1904.

October 3rd.

“Paris, and its Story” (with Limelight Illustrations).

November 7th.

“Charles Dickens” (with Limelight Illustrations).

December 5th.

“The Humour and Pathos of J. M. Barrie.”

1905.

January 2nd.

“The Story of Two Cathedrals: Lichfield and Worcester”
(with Limelight Illustrations).

January 30th.

“The Story of the Heavens” (with Limelight Illustrations).

March 6th.

“Old and New Birmingham” (with Limelight Illustrations).

April 3rd.

“The Dales and Caverns of Derbyshire” (with Limelight Illustrations).

List of Donations to the Library

DURING THE YEAR.

Anti-Vivisection Society—

The Zoophilist, monthly, as published

Aston Manor Institutions, Report from—

Fire Brigade

Health Department

Medical Officer of Health

Nursing Institution

Education Committee

Technical School

Birmingham Free Libraries Committee (*per A. Capel Shaw, Esq.*)

Reports on Secondary Education, 10 vols.

Works of John Locke, 1727, 3 vols.

Tooke's Diversions of Purley, 1778-1805, 2 vols.

Hayley's Life and Letters of William Cowper, 1812, 4 vols.

Eustace's Classical Tour through Italy, 1815, 4 vols.

Also a number of Pamphlets

Birmingham and Midland Institute (*per A. Hayes, Esq.*)—

Archæological Section, Transactions of, for 1903

Birmingham, University of—

Calendar, 1904-5

British Museum—

Catalogue of Terra-cottas

Catalogue of the Franks Collection of Bookplates, vols. 2 and 3

Catalogue of Greek Sculpture, vol. 3

Index to the Sloane MSS.

Guides to the Antiquities, the Egyptian Rooms, etc.

British Museum (Natural History)—

History of the Natural History Collections, vol. 1

Catalogue of Natural History Library, vol. 2

Second Report on Economic Zoology

The Jurassic Flora

Browne, T. B. and Co., Limited—

The Advertiser's ABC, 1905

Choate, Hon. J. (*the author*)—

Address on Alex. Hamilton

"Daily Mail"—

The Daily Mail Year Book, 1905

Dent, Mr. R. K.—

Collection of Dickensiana, viz.—

Dickensiana, by F. G. Kitton

Shepherd's Bibliography

Cook's Bibliography

Dickens's London, by T. E. Pemberton

Charles Dickens and the Stage, by T. E. Pemberton

About England with Dickens, by A. Rimmer

Charles Dickens as a Reader, by C. Kent

In Kent with Charles Dickens, by T. Frost

Charles Dickens as I knew Him, by T. F. Dolby

Glimpses of Charles Dickens, by E. Williamson
 Biographies of John Leech and H. K. Browne, by Kitton
 Sale Catalogue of Gad's Hill
 And many pamphlets and scraps

Durham, University of—
 Calendar, 1904-5

Farrer, The Dowager Lady—
 Free Trade *versus* Fair Trade, by Lord Farrer

Libraries (Public) Reports, Catalogues, &c., from—

Aberdeen, Ashton-under-Lyne, Barrow-in-Furness, Battersea, Bebington, Belfast, Birmingham, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Bootle, Bradford, Brierley Hill, Brighton, Bristol, Bury, Buxton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Chelsea, Chorley, Cork, Cripplegate Foundation, Croydon, Derby, Dundee, Dunkinfield, Ealing, Eastbourne, Finsbury, Folkestone, Fulham, Glasgow (Baillie's), Glasgow (Stirling's), Gloucester, Gosport, Hammer-smith, Hanley, Hastings, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Kensal Rise, Kettering, Kidderminster, Leeds, Leek (Nicholson Institute), Leicester, Leyton, Lincoln, Liverpool, Longton, Malvern, New York, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Nottingham, Oldbury, Penarth, Perth, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Preston, Richmond, St. Helens, Salford, Shoreditch, Smethwick, Southampton, Stockport, Tottenham, Tynemouth, Walsall, Walthamstow, Wands-worth, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, West Ham, Westminster, Wigan, Willesden (Kilburn), Willesden (Harlesden), Willesden Green, Wimbledon, Workington, Worcester, Great Yarmouth, York

Liverpool, Free Library and Museum Committee

(*per Peter Cowell, Esq.*)

Liverpool Public Libraries: a History of 50 Years

Liverpool, Corporation of the City of—
 Handbook to the City of Liverpool (Health Congress)

London, The Corporation of the City of—
 Letter Books of the City (Edw. III.), vol. 6

Potter, C., Esq.—
 The Purgatorio and Paradiso of Dante, translated by C. Potter

Religious Tract Society, The—
 History of the Gunpowder Plot, by Philip Sydney

Sawyer, Sir James, M.D. (*the author*)—
 Insomnia: Its Cause and Cure
 Contributions to Practical Medicine Enlarged Edition

Smithsonian Institution—
 Annual Report, 1902, part 2

"Statist, The," Offices of—
 All about Assurance

Thomas, J. M., Esq. (Aberystwyth)—
 Sutton Coldfield, Town and Chase, by Midgeley

Vegetarian Society—
 Vegetarian Messenger, monthly, as published

Also the Newspapers and Periodicals (from their respective Publishers), marked thus * in the lists on pp. 11-13.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT,

Year ending March 31st, 1905.

Income.			Expenditure.		
1904.	£	s. d.	1905.	£	s. d.
April 1st.—To Balance in hand ...	4	14 11 6	Mar. 31st.—By Salaries ...	326	7 2
1905.			" Books ...	148	19 2
Mar. 31st.—To Rate at 1d. in the £ ...	54	18 6	" Newspapers and Periodicals	82	13 3
" Fines ...	3	9 9	" Binding ...	89	1 3
" Catalogues, &c. ...	2	4 8	" Printing ...	50	16 6
" Re-Sales and Damages	60	12 11	" Light, Water, Fuel, and Cleaning ...	84	18 1
" Fines <i>Branch</i> ...	15	4 1	" Repairs and Sundries ...	26	7 7
" Catalogues, " ...	1	12 1	<i>Total Central Library</i>	809	3 0
" Damages, &c. " ...	0	7 9	Lecture Expenses	63	19 8
" Advertisements in Lecture Programme	17	3 11	(Central and Branch)		
	4	18 0	<i>BRANCH LIBRARY.</i>		
			Salaries ...	65	0 0
			" Books ...	16	12 3
			" Newspapers & Periodicals	25	13 0
			" Binding ...	17	0 9
			" Printing ...	0	18 0
			" Light, Water, Fuel, and Cleaning ...	79	11 4
			" Repairs and Sundries ...	20	17 4
			<i>Total Branch Library</i>	225	12 8
			Balance in hand ...	448	11 0
				<u>£1547</u>	<u>6 4</u>

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Borough of Aston Manor.

TWENTY-EIGHTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Free Libraries Committee,

APRIL 1st, 1905, to MARCH 31st, 1906.

Aston Manor :

PRINTED FOR THE FREE LIBRARIES COMMITTEE

By Geo. Roobottom & Sons, Globe Works, High Street.

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Borough of Aston Manor.

Free Libraries Committee.

1904-5.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN ALFRED TAYLOR, J.P.)
COUNCILLOR H. GUEST, *Chairman*
COUNCILLOR T. P. BIRD.
COUNCILLOR F. GOODRICH.
COUNCILLOR A. HARRIS.
COUNCILLOR J. C. TILLOTSON.
MR. SIDNEY FISHER.
DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P., *Chairman*
of Book Sub-Committee.
THE REV. G. E. PRICE.
THE REV. E. DALE ROBERTS, M.A.
MR. WILLIAM UNITE.

1905-6

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN ALFRED TAYLOR, J.P.)
COUN. H. GUEST, J.P. *Chairman*
COUNCILLOR T. P. BIRD
COUNCILLOR F. GOODRICH.
COUNCILLOR A. HARRIS, J.P.
COUNCILLOR G. HAYES.
MR. SIDNEY FISHER, J.P.
DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P. *Chair-*
man of the Book Sub-Committee.
THE REV. G. E. PRICE.
THE REV. E. DALE ROBERTS, M.A.
MR. WILLIAM UNITE.

Hon. Sec.—MR. JOSEPH ANSELL, J.P., *Town Clerk.*

Assist. Hon. Sec—MR. WILLIAM THOMPSON, *Dep. Town Clerk.*

Chief Librarian—MR. ROBERT K. DENT.

Assistant Librarian.—MR. T. J. NEWELL.

Attendant and Caretaker at Branch Library—

MR. T. LOVEROCK.

Past Chairmen of the Free Libraries Committee.

1877-78. MR. EDWARD EVANS.
1878-83. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.
1883-87. REV. FREDERICK SMITH, M.A.
1887-90. DR. JOHN HARVEY.
1890-94. MR. JAMES OSBORNE.
1895-96. COUNCILLOR W. UNITE.
1896-97. COUNCILLOR W. E. COOKE.
1897-1900. COUNCILLOR H. GUEST.
1900-03. COUNCILLOR S. FISHER.
1903-04. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.

REPORT.

The Free Libraries Committee have pleasure in presenting the Twenty-eighth Annual Report on the Work of the Libraries.

From the Tables of Issues appended to this Report it will be seen that the interest in the various departments of Library work has been fully maintained, and even increased. In the Reference Library, 17,172 volumes have been consulted, while from the Central Lending Library no less than 97,790 volumes have been issued, this being an increase of three thousand over the highest previous record since the opening of the Library, and of eight thousand over last year's total. The Branch Library statistics show a slight falling-off, although not more than may be properly set down to the passing away of the novelty, such as often occurs some time after the opening of a new library.

The publication of the new Catalogue of the Central Lending Library marks a distinct advance in this department. The catalogue is arranged on the dictionary plan, with full entries, notes of contents, occasional notes on books, and carefully grouped entries under all subjects of enquiry; and it is hoped it will prove, in a greater measure than any former catalogue of this department, an efficient and simple hand-book to the contents of the Library. Although it extends to 460 pages, the price has been fixed at sixpence, (the same price as the older catalogues), in order to place it within the reach of every borrower.

The opportunity afforded by the preparation of the new catalogue has been taken advantage of, to eliminate from the Fiction section many duplicates no longer in demand, and such books as, being nearly worn out and not replaceable, it was desirable should be withdrawn from the catalogue. The number withdrawn about equals the number added to this department during the year, so that, for the first time in the

history of the Library, no advance is recorded in the growth of the Central Lending Library. Such of the duplicates thus withdrawn, however, as are in good condition and likely to prove useful, will shortly be added to the Branch Library.

A considerable improvement has also been effected in the arrangement of the Fiction, the whole of which has been re-numbered on the plan adopted at the formation of the Branch Library. This will, it is hoped, be found helpful to the readers at the Central Library in the use of the Indicator, which has also been re-arranged as far as the Fiction section is concerned, and will facilitate the service at the counter.

The Catalogue of the Branch Library having gone out of print, arrangements are being made for the issue of a new edition, including the numerous additions which have been made to this Library, at an early date.

During last summer both the Central and the Branch Library buildings were cleaned and renovated, the Libraries being closed for that purpose, the Central for a fortnight and the Branch for a week.

The Free Lectures continue to maintain their popularity, attracting crowded audiences on every occasion. In addition to the fourteen lectures delivered at the Albert Hall, by various lecturers, seven one-hour lectures have been delivered by the Chief Librarian in the Branch Reading Room (from nine to ten in the evening), most of them being illustrated by means of the Lantern. These have also been well attended. The Committee here tender their thanks to the Lecturers and to the Chief Librarian for the valuable services thus rendered to the public through this institution. Lists of the Lectures will be found on pages 15 and 16.

In the ensuing Records of Issues, Financial Statement, and other statistics, the year's work is set out in detail.

HENRY GUEST, J.P. *Chairman.*

ROBERT K. DENT, *Chief Librarian.*

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

(Opened January 4th, 1882, with 2,300 volumes.)

Number of Volumes in the Reference Department, March 31st, 1906.

				<i>Plans.</i>	<i>Vols.</i>	<i>Pamphlets.</i>	<i>Total</i>	
General Knowledge (Encyclopædias, Periodicals, etc.)				—	890	5	895	
Philosophy	...	...	...	—	120	1	121
Religion	...	...	...	—	563	27	590
Sociology	...	...	...	—	221	96	317
Philology	...	...	...	—	124	17	141
Natural Science	...	...	...	—	757	29	786
Useful Arts (including Patent Abridgments)				...	1626	21	1647	
Fine Arts	...	...	...	—	894	22	916
Literature—								
(a)	General Literature		...	—	538	29	567	
(b)	Poetry and the Drama		...	—	530	—	530	
(c)	Prose Fiction		...	—	177	—	177	
History—								
(a)	General History		...	—	1094	8	1102	
(b)	Geography, Travel, and Topography			...	677	32	709	
(c)	Biography			...	567	21	588	
(d)	Local Books (Birmingham & Aston)			...	54	314	437	805
Total				...	54	9092	745	9891
Contents of Reference Library,								
March 31st 1905.				...	54	8712	737	9573
Number of Vols. added during 1905-6				...		311	7	318
							Total	9891

Classification of Volumes consulted in the Reference Department during the year ending March 31st, 1906.

General Knowledge ...	...	...	...	6283
Philosophy ...	...	...	...	248
Religion ...	...	...	...	1228
Sociology ..	...	...	...	432
Philology ...	...	...	...	1311
Natural Science ..	...	...	...	723
Useful Arts ...	...	...	...	914
Fine Arts ...	...	...	...	1101
Literature—				
(a) General Literature ...	...	...	...	725
(b) Poetry and the Drama	...	...	..	791
(c) Prose Fiction ...	...	...	...	304
History—				
(a) General History	...	...	...	981
(b) Geography, Travel, and Topography	...	...	...	1136
(c) Biography ...	...	...	...	687
(d) Local Books	...	...	...	308
			Total	17172
Number of days open	...	...	...	295
Daily Average ..	...	...	...	58'2

Principal Additions to the Library during the Year.

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Commentary on Isaiah, by F. Delitzsch, 2 vols ; Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, (illustrated by W. Strang) ; The Contendings of the Apostles, Ethiopic text, with trans. by E. A. W. Budge, 2 vols. ; Lyra Americana ; Treasury of American Sacred Song, ed. by W. G. Horder ; Works of John Locke, 3 vols.

Structural and Field Geology, by J. Geikie ; Modern Electric Practice, ed. by M. Maclean, 6 vols. ; Gothic Architecture in England, by F. Bond ; Photography as a Fine Art, by C. H. Caffin ; The Art of Portrait Painting, by the Hon. J. Collier ; Kate Greenaway and her Art, by Spielmann and Layard ; The British Museum Catalogues of Pottery and Porcelain, (illustrated) ; Plates to Medallie Illustrations of British History, (4 portfolios) ; etc.

Archæology and False Antiquities, by Munro ; The Smith Family, by Compton Reade ; London Vanished and Vanishing, by P. Norman ; Bonnie Scotland, by Sutton Palmer ; Familiar London : pictures by Rose Barton ; London to the Nore, by W. L. and Mrs. Wyllie ; The Rambler in Worcestershire, 2nd and 3rd series, by J. Noake ; The Manor and Manorial Records, by N. Hone ; The Royal Forests of England, by J. C. Cox ; History of the Birmingham Corporation, vol. 3, by C. A. Vince ; The Vale of Nant Gwyllt and the Birmingham Water Scheme, by R. E. Tickell ; The World of To-day, by A. R. H. Moncrieff, vols. 1-5 ; Pepys's Diary and Correspondence, ed. by H. B. Wheatley, 10 vols. ; Life of Napoleon I by J. H. Rose, 2 vols. ; Smiles's Lives of the Engineers, 3 vols. ; Works of Thomas de Quincey, 15 vols. ; Swinburne's Tragedies, vols. 1-4 ; Pannell's Reference Book.



CENTRAL LENDING LIBRARY.

The Will to Believe, and other essays, by W. James ; The Psychology of Religion, by J. D. Starbuck ; De Profundis, by Oscar Wilde ; Haeckel's Monism False, by F. Ballard ; Life and Matter, by Sir O. Lodge ; An Editor's Sermons, by Sir E. Russell ; Brooks by the Traveller's Way, by J. H. Jowett ; The Making of Religion, by A. Lang, etc.

Fifty Years of Fleet Street, (Reminiscences of Sir J. R. Robinson), ed. by Moy Thomas ; Ernest Renan, by W. Barry ; Sir H. Hawkins' Reminiscences ; James Watt, by A. Carnegie ; Memorials of Thomas Hood, 2 vols. ; Life and Remains of J. H. Shorthouse, 2 vols. ; Dan Leno, by Hickory Wood ; John Bull and Jonathan : Reminiscences of I. Morgan Richards ; The Fathers for English Readers, 17 vols., etc.

History of the Birmingham Corporation, vol. 3, by C. A. Vince ; Short History of Sutton Coldfield, by W. Midgley ; Highways and Byways Series : South Wales and Derbyshire ; A Book of the West, 2 vols., and

North and South Wales, 2 vols., by S. Baring Gould ; Bell's Cathedrals series : Southwark and Manchester ; North-Western France, by A. J. C. Hare ; Canada in the Twentieth Century, by A. G. Bradley ; Canada as it is, by J. F. Frazer ; Unbeaten Tracks in Japan, by Mrs. Bishop ; Two Happy Years in Ceylon, by C. Gordon Cumming, 2 vols. ; Cromwell's Army, by C. H. Firth ; Later Peeps at Parliament, by H. W. Lucy ; Modern Italy, by P. Orsi ; A Secret Agent in Port Arthur, by W. Greener ; Russia, by D. M. Wallace, (*new edition*), 2 vols., etc.

Betting and Gambling, ed. by B. S. Rowntree ; Dynamics of the Fiscal Question, by V. St. C. Mackenzie ; Land Nationalization, by A. R. Wallace ; The Third Factor of Production, by A. J. Ogilvy ; Colonial Tariffs, by J. W. Root, etc.

The Tides, by G. H. Darwin ; Extinct Animals, by E. R. Lankester ; The New Knowledge, by R. K. Duncan ; Peeps into Nature's Ways, by J. J. Ward ; Natural History in Zoological Gardens, by F. E. Beddard ; Telegraphy, by T. E. Herbert ; Stained Glass Work, by C. W. Whall ; Manual of Archæology, by C. Boutell ; The Romance of Locomotion, and The Romance of Mining, by A. Williams ; Manual of Locomotive Engineering, by Pettigrew ; Coal and Coal Mining, by T. H. Cockin, etc.

The Battle of the Bays, by O. Seaman ; Poetical Works of F. R. Havergal ; Verses, by C. G. Rossetti ; Poems of Ossian ; Poems of Alfred Austin, 6 vols. ; Odes et Ballades, par V. Hugo ; Virgil and Horace, Latin Texts, etc.

About one hundred and twenty volumes of recent Fiction.

Shakespearean Tragedy, by A. G. Bradley ; Ten Plays of Shakespeare, by Stopford A. Brooke ; Essays of an Ex-Librarian, by R. Garnett ; Day-Book of Claudius Clear, by W. R. Nicoll ; Essays on Browning, by M. Little ; Seven Supreme Poets, by R. P. Downes ; In the name of the Bodleian, by A. Birrell ; Makers of English Fiction, by W. J. Dawson ; Essays of Travel, and the Art of Writing, by R. L. Stevenson ; Adventures among Books, by A. Lang ; With the Woodlanders, by A. Son of the Marshes ; Pictures of many Wars, by F. Villiers, etc.

Forty-two volumes of current Periodicals, bound from the monthly issues.

Forty-six volumes of recent Juvenile Literature.

BRANCH LENDING LIBRARY.

The Saracens, by Gibbon and Ockley ; Wallace's Russia, 2 vols ; South Africa, by A. Trollope, 2 vols.

Romance of Modern Invention ; Romance of Modern Engineering ; Romance of Modern Locomotion ; The Vegetable World, by L. Figuier ; Manchester Science Lectures, 3 vols.

Sea Songs and Ballads, by C. Dibdin ; Chaucer's Canterbury Tales.

One hundred and thirty-eight volumes of recent Fiction.

Thirty-three volumes of recent Juvenile Literature.

Modern Magic, by Prof. Hoffman.

LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

Number of Volumes March 31st, 1906.

CENTRAL LIBRARY, WITTON ROAD.

(Opened February 4th, 1878, with 2,700 volumes.)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	541
Biography, History, Topography. Voyages and Travels	...	...	...	1452
Sociology	...	...	...	112
Arts and Sciences and Natural History	...	...	...	800
Games, Sports and Recreations	...	...	...	38
Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	364
Prose Fiction	...	...	...	3864
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	1084
Magazines and Reviews	...	...	...	1929
* Music	...	...	...	365
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	866
Total				11,415
Total of Lending Department, March 31st, 1905				11,423
Deduct by vols. discarded, being duplicates, or worn out and not replaced				323
Number of vols. added during the year				11,100
				315
				11,415

BRANCH LIBRARY, ASTON CROSS.

(Lending Department opened December 14th, 1903.)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	61
Biography, History, Travels, etc.	...	...	...	208
Sociology	...	...	...	14
Arts, Sciences and Natural History	...	...	...	107
Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	49
Fiction	...	...	...	912
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	52
Magazines	...	...	...	67
* Music	...	...	...	75
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	203
Books of Reference : Encyclopædias, Dictionaries, Concordances, etc.				61
Total				1,809
Number of volumes in the Library, March 31st, 1905				1610
Number added during the year				199
				1,809
Total number of vols. in Lending Libraries				13,224

*i.e., *Musical Compositions* : works on the History and Theory of Music, Exercises, etc., are counted in the Arts and Sciences Class.

LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

STATISTICS OF ISSUES.

Classification of Volumes issued from the Lending Libraries during the year 1905-6.

	<i>Central.</i>	<i>Branch.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Religion and Philosophy	386	147	533
Biography, History, Travel, etc. ...	1,602	519	2,121
Sociology	98	34	132
Arts, Sciences and Natural History	1,704	257	1,961
Poetry and the Drama	346	119	465
Prose Fiction	59,421	18,945	78,366
Miscellaneous Literature	1,805	154	1,959
Magazines	4,413	1,026	5,439
Juvenile Books	18,401	4,506	22,907
Unbound Periodicals	190	—	190
Renewals	6,970	1,639	8,609
Music	2,454	315	2,769
	<u>97,790</u>	<u>27,661</u>	<u>125,451</u>
Daily Average	331.5	91.9	423.4

Monthly Totals, 1905-6.

	<i>Central.</i>	<i>Branch.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
April	8,498	2,418	10,916
May	8,725	2,439	11,164
June	7,760	2,088	9,848
July	7,694	2,149	9,843
August	4,403*	1,621‡	6,024
September	8,107	2,241	10,348
October	8,296	2,443	10,739
November	8,430	2,521	10,951
December	8,117	2,366	10,483
January	9,120	2,411	11,531
February	8,604	2,287	10,891
March	10,036	2,677	12,713
	<u>97,790</u>	<u>27,661</u>	<u>125,451</u>

* Central Library closed two weeks for cleaning.

‡ Branch Library closed one week for cleaning.

Grand Total of Issues, 1878-1906.

From the Lending and Reference Libraries.

Year ending	Central Lending		Branch Lending		Reference.
March, 1879	...	75,036	...	—	—
„ 1880	...	70,914	...	—	—
„ 1881	...	67,583	...	—	—
„ 1882	...	66,092	...	—	2,109
„ 1883	...	75,395	...	—	8,096
„ 1884	...	69,247	...	—	11,041
„ 1885	...	77,219	...	—	12,380
„ 1886	...	73,368	...	—	14,599
„ 1887	...	94,979	...	—	16,208
„ 1888	...	91,761	...	—	16,769
„ 1889	...	82,605	..	—	14,199
„ 1890	..	67,467	...	—	16,616
„ 1891	...	67,692	...	—	18,485
„ 1892	...	77,621	...	—	15,311
„ 1893	...	81,319	...	—	12,012
„ 1894	...	84,026	...	—	12,599
„ 1895	...	82,036	...	—	14,967
„ 1896	...	87,100	...	—	12,409
„ 1897	...	67,593	...	—	10,401
„ 1898	...	62,874	...	—	11,287
„ 1899	...	63,682	...	—	10,959
„ 1900	...	72,724	...	—	10,698
„ 1901	...	80,150	...	—	14,309
„ 1902	...	82,032	...	—	14,114
„ 1903	...	90,051	...	—	15,849
„ 1904	...	87,545	...	8,291	17,264
„ 1905	...	89,904	...	31,370	17,604
„ 1906	...	97,790	...	27,661	17,172
		<u>2,185,805</u>		<u>67,322</u>	<u>337,457</u>

Grand Total of Issues in all Departments since the opening of the Libraries

2,590,584

Central Reading Rooms.

(Opened January 4th, 1882.)

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those Marked thus * are presented by the Publishers.*

Daily.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily Mail
Birmingham Daily Gazette (3)	„ Daily News
Birmingham Daily Mail (3)	„ Daily Telegraph
Birmingham Daily Post (4)	„ Morning Leader
London Daily Chronicle	„ Standard
„ Daily Graphic	„ Times

Weekly.

Aston News	Illustrated London News
Athenæum	Inquirer
Baptist	*Journal of the Society of Arts
*Belfast Weekly News	Labour News
*Birmingham Owl	*Lincoln and Stamford Mercury
*Birmingham Pictorial and Dart	Liverpool Weekly Post
Birmingham Weekly Mercury	*Local Government Chronicle
Birmingham Weekly Post	London Opinion and To-day
Black and White	M.A.P.
*Board of Trade Journal	Methodist Recorder
British Weekly	*Midland Counties Herald
Building News	*Motor Traction
Bystander	Nature
*Cambrian News	Notes and Queries
*Canada	*Patents : Illustrated Official Journal
Christian World	Phonetic Journal
Church Family Newspaper	Public Opinion
*Civil Service Aspirant	Punch
*Civil Service Weekly	Queen
Contract Journal	Saturday Review
*Co-operative News	School Government Chronicle
*Drapers' Record	Scientific American
Dublin Freeman's Journal	Scotsman
Electrical Review	*Shop Assistant
Electrician	Sketch
Engineer	Speaker
Engineering	Spectator
English Mechanic	Sphere
Examiner	T.P.'s Weekly
Field	Tablet
Garden	Truth
Gardening	*University Correspondent
Gentlewoman	*Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser
*Gloucestershire Chronicle	*Western Weekly News
Graphic	Westminster Gazette (Sat. edition)
Guardian	*Worcester Journal (Berrow's)
Harper's Weekly	Work
Hereford Times	Yorkshire Post.

Monthly.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Animals' Friend Architectural Review *Arms and Explosives Art Journal *Birmingham King Edward's School Chronicle Blackwood's Magazine Bookman Burlington Magazine Captain, The Cassell's Magazine Century Magazine Chambers's Journal Contemporary Review Cornhill Magazine *Educational Review *Educational Times English Illustrated Magazine *Forester's Miscellany Fortnightly Review Harper's Monthly Magazine *Herald of the Golden Age *Humanitarian Idler *Insurance Agent and Review *Journal of the Incorporated Society of Musicians Knowledge *Labour Gazette Library Association Record Library World | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literary World London, The Macmillan's Magazine *Mining Journal of Queensland Govt. Monthly Review *Musical Herald Musical Times New Church Magazine Nineteenth Century and after *Our Own Gazette (Y.W.C.A.) Pall Mall Magazine Pearson's Magazine *Philatelic Chronicle Photogram *Plumber and Decorator Quiver *Registrar General's List of Deceased Seamen Review of Reviews *State Correspondent Strand Magazine Sunday at Home Temple Bar *University Correspondent *Vaccination Inquirer *Vegetarian Messenger Wide World Magazine Windsor Magazine Woman at Home *Zoophilist |
|---|--|

Railway Time Tables.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bradshaw's Railway Guide *Everybody's Time Table *Great Western Railway | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Hammond's Railway Guide *Midland Railway *White & Pike's Railway Guide |
|---|---|

Quarterly, &c.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birmingham Magazine *Emigrant's Information Circulars | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. George: Journal of the Birmingham Ruskin Society *Travel |
|--|---|

Annual.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academy Notes *The ABC Press Directory Birmingham Red Book Birmingham Society of Artists' Catalogues *Calendar of Birmingham University *Calendar of Durham University *Daily Mail Year Book Directories (Birmingham, London, Liverpool, Manchester, etc.) Financial Reform Almanack Hazell's Annual Incorporated Society of Musicians' Year Book The Insurance Register | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library Association Year Book Literary Year Book Low's English Catalogue; Annual Supplement Municipal Year Book National Union of Teachers Year Book Smithsonian Instit'n Annual Report *Stubbs' Directory Studio Extra Numbers *Transactions of the Archæological Section, Midland Institute Whitaker's Almanack The Year's Art |
|---|--|

BRANCH READING ROOM,

ASTON CROSS.

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those marked thus * are presented by the Publishers.*

DAILY

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily News
„ Daily Gazette (2)	„ Daily Mail
„ Daily Mail (2)	„ Daily Telegraph
„ Daily Post (4)	„ Standard
London Daily Chronicle	

WEEKLY.

*Aston News	London Opinion, and To-Day
Athenæum (second week)	M.A.P.
*Birmingham Owl	*Midland Counties Herald
Birmingham Weekly Mercury	*Phonetic Journal
Birmingham Weekly Post	Public Opinion
Bystander (second week)	Punch
Cassell's Saturday Journal	Queen (second week)
Electrician (second week)	Saturday Review (second week)
Electrical Review (second week)	Scientific American (second week)
Engineer	*Shop Assistant
Engineering (second week)	Sketch (second week)
English Mechanic	Speaker (second week)
Field (second week)	Spectator (second week)
Garden	Sphere (second week)
Gardening	T. P.'s Weekly
Gentlewoman (second week)	Truth (second week)
Graphic	Westminster Gazette (Saturday ed.)
Illustrated London News	Work
Labour News	

MONTHLY.

Band of Hope Review (2)	London, The
Bradshaw's Railway Guide	Longman's Magazine
British Workman	Pall Mall Magazine
Captain, The	Pearson's Magazine
Cassell's Magazine	Strand Magazine
Chambers's Journal	Sunday at Home
Cottager and Artisan	*White and Pike Railway Guide
English Illustrated Magazine	Windsor Magazine
Labour Gazette	Woman at Home
Literary World	*Zoophilist

General Summary of the Work of the Library

In all its departments during the Year ending March 31st, 1906.

Total Number of Volumes in, and of Issues from, the Libraries :—

	No. of Vols.	Issues during 1905-6
Reference Library ...	9,852	17,172
Central Lending Library ...	11,415	97,790
Branch Library, Aston Cross ...	1,809	27,661
	23,076	142,623

Estimated Total Attendance at the Fourteen Free Lectures ...	5,600
" " " Seven Branch Library Lectures	900
Number of Volumes added to the Reference Library ...	318
" " added to the Central Lending Library ...	315
" " added to the Branch Library ...	199
" Notifications paid for ...	Central 111
" " " 	Branch 40
" Pence paid as Fines for Detention of Books (Central)	12,106
" " " " " (Branch)	3,900
" Worn-out Volumes Replaced ...	(Central) 303
" " " " " (Branch)	5
" Books re-bound, bound from paper covers, or repaired by binder ...	(Central) 616
" " " " " (Branch)	175
" Volumes of Periodicals bound (Reference and Lending)	107
Daily Average Issue, Reference... ..	58·2
" " Central Lending	331·5
" " Branch Lending	91·9
Number of Borrowers' Tickets issued during the year, Central ...	1,460*
" " " " " Branch ...	477*
Present Total of Borrowers using the Central Library, about ...	3,000
" " " Branch ...	750

* Does not include the *Second Tickets* issued for Music.

FREE LECTURES.

THE TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL COURSE OF FREE LECTURES, delivered under the auspices of the FREE LIBRARIES COMMITTEE, consisted of fourteen Lectures. They were as follows :—

1905.

- Oct. 3rd. F. W. SAXBY, ESQ.
"Dust as seen through a Microscope" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Oct. 17th. G. E. THOMPSON, ESQ.
"Days among the Dolomites" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Oct. 31st. H. CROWTHER, ESQ., F.R.M.S.
"The making of the Coast of Britain" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Nov. 14th. F. LAMBERT, ESQ., F.R.G.S.
"Through the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Nov. 28th. C. P. PERRY, ESQ., F.R.G.S.
"The Glories of Italy" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Dec. 12th. G. W. HEFFORD, ESQ., B.Sc., F.I.C.
"Ice" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Dec. 28th. W. IZON, ESQ.
"Rambles in Derbyshire with a Camera" (with Limelight Illustrations).

1906.

- Jan. 9th. H. B. BUTTON, ESQ.
"The Western Coast of Wales" (with Limelight and Vocal Illustrations)
- Jan. 23rd. THE REV. H. J. SUGDEN.
"The Lungs of Birmingham" (with Limelight Illustrations)
- Feb. 6th. W. H. SHRUBSOLE, ESQ., F.G.S.
"Holiday Rambles in Hungary" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Feb. 20th. THE REV CANON SUTTON, M.A.
"Charles Dickens's "Dombey and Son.""
- March 6th. THE REV. JAMES WYLIE.
"Carlyle and Burns; a comparison and contrast."
- March 20th. W. F. BLAY, ESQ., F.R.M.S.
"The Story of the Rainbow" (with Limelight Illustrations)
- April 3rd. HAROLD BAKER, ESQ.
"English Architecture; a Sketch of its History" (with Limelight Illustrations).

Lectures in the Branch Reading Room, **Aston Cross.**

Seven Monthly Talks, or One Hour Lectures, were delivered by the Chief Librarian in the Branch Reading Room, commencing each evening at nine and concluding at ten o'clock. They were as follows :—

1905.

October 2nd.

“ Pictures from the Story of Old Birmingham,”—
With Limelight Illustrations.

November 6th.

“ Shakespeare and his England,”—With Limelight Illustrations.

December 4th.

“ Mark Twain on his Travels,”—With Limelight Illustrations.

1906.

January 1st.

“ Some Humorists of To-day,”--Barry Pain, W. W. Jacobs, Jerome, F. Anstey.

February 5th.

“ The Mystery of Edwin Drood,”—With Limelight Illustrations.

March 5th.

“ Wayfaring Life, from the 14th Century to the 19th,”—
With Limelight Illustrations.

April 2nd.

“ Shades and Echoes of Old London,”—With Limelight Illustrations.

List of Donations to the Library

DURING THE YEAR.

- Andrews, W. Esq., J. P. (Coventry)
Two Pamphlets on Warwickshire Geology and Place-names.
- Anti-Vivisection Society—
The Zoophilist, monthly, as published.
The Animal's Friend, monthly, as published.
- Aston Manor Institutions, Reports from—

Borough Treasurer	Nursing Institution
Fire Brigade	Relief Association
Education Committee	Sanitary Inspector
Medical Officer of Health	Technical School
- Birmingham, City of (*per E. O. Smith, Esq., Town Clerk.*)—
History of the Corporation, vol. 3, by C. A. Vince, 2 copies.
- Birmingham and Midland Institute Archæological Society (*per A. Hayes, Esq.*)—
Transactions of the Archæological Society for 1904.
- Birmingham Free Libraries Committee (*per A. Capel Shaw, Esq., Chief Librarian*)—
Bureau of American Ethnology, Annual Report, 1899-1901, 3 vols.
Promptorium Parvulorum, 2 parts, (Camden Society).
Pamphlets on Early Railway Movements.
List of the Maps of America.
- Birmingham, University of—
Calendar of the University, 1905-6.
- Board of Trade—
The Board of Trade Journal, as published.
Labour Gazette, as published, 2 copies.
- British Museum, The Trustees of—
Handbook of English Porcelain.
Medallic Illustrations of British History, (Plates) 4 portfolios.
Catalogue of Japanese Books and MSS.
Hebrew and Samaritan MSS., part 2.
Guide Books: Early Iron Age, and Naval Collection.
- British Museum (Natural History Department)—
Catalogue of Birds' Eggs, part 4.
Synonymic Catalogue of Orthoptera.
Catalogue of Lepidoptera Phalænæ, vol. 5, with Plates.
- Budge, E. A. W., Esq —
The Contendings of the Apostles (Ethiopic text, with translation by E. A. W. Budge, 2 vols.
- Carson, T. G., Esq.—
Man's Responsibility: (The Origin of Evil) by T. G. Carson.
- "Daily Mail."
The Daily Mail Year Book, 1906.
- Durham, University of—
Calendar of the University, 1905-6.

Edwards, Passmore, Esq.
A Few Footprints.

Emigrants' Information Office—

Handbooks for various Colonies, 2 copies.

Quarterly Circulars of Information for Emigrants.

“Faith” Press, The (*per Rev. Cyrus E. Brooks*)—
Four Works on Eternal Life and Conditional Immortality.

Guest, Councillor H., J.P.—

The Future of our City, by W. Henman.

Holingsworth, C. B., Esq.—

Writings of “Zion,” vols. 7 to 16, (in continuation).

Libraries, Public; Reports, Catalogues, &c, from—

Aberdeen, Ashton-under-Lyne, Barrow-in-Furness, Battersea, Bebington, Belfast, Birmingham, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Bootle, Bradford, Brierley Hill, Brighton, Bristol, Bury, Buxton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Chelsea, Chorley, Cork, Cripplegate Foundation, Croydon, Derby, Dudley, Dundee, Ealing, Eastbourne, Finsbury, Fulham, Glasgow, (Stirling's), Gloucester, Grand Rapids, U.S.A., Hammersmith, Hanley, Hastings, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Kensal Rise, Kettering, Kidderminster, Leeds, Leek (Nicholson Institute), Leicester, Leyton, Lincoln, Liverpool, Longton, Loughborough, Malvern, New York, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Nottingham, Oldbury, Osaka, Penarth, Perth, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Preston, Richmond, St. Helens, Salford, Shoreditch, Smethwick, Stockport, Stoke Newington, Tottenham, Tynemouth, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, West Bromwich, Westminster, Wigan, Willesden (Kilburn), Willesden (Harlesden), Wimbledon, Worcester, Great Yarmouth, York.

London, The Corporation of the City of—

Letter Books of the City of London, temp. Edw. III. vol. 7.

Patent Office—

Patents Illustrated Official Journal, weekly, as published.

Abridgments of Patents, in Classes, as published.

Patent Office Library Series, as published.

Registrar General, The—

Monthly List of Deceased Seamen, as published.

St. Louis Exhibition 1904, Royal Commission (*per C. M. Watson, Esq., sec.*)

Report of the Royal Commission on the Exhibition.

Smithsonian Institution, The—

Annual Report, 1904, 2 vols.

Society of Arts, The—

Report of the Committee on Leather for Bookbinding.

Journal of the Society, weekly, as published.

Stubbs' Ltd.—

Stubbs' Directory, 1906.

Swedenborg Society, The—

Several Volumes of Selections from Swedenborg's Writings and other works.

Tate, Mr. J. S.—

Two French Novels.

University Tutorial Press—

London University Calendar, 1906.

Vegetarian Society, The—

Vegetarian Messenger, monthly, as published.

Voysey, Rev. Charles—

Religion for all Mankind, by C. Voysey.

Watson, J. Spence, Esq., LL. D. (*per Basil Anderton, Esq., B.A.*)

History of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Lit. and Philos. Society, (1793-1896)
by J. Spence Watson.

Young, Dr. James (The Trustees of the late)—

Bibliotheca Chemica : Catalogue of the Chemical Library of Dr. James
Young, 2 vols.

Also the Newspapers and Periodicals (from their respective publishers)
marked thus * in the lists on pages 11-13.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT,

Year ending March 31st, 1906.

Income.				Expenditure.			
		£	s. d.		£	s. d.	£
1905.				1906.			
April 1st—To Balance in hand	..	463	8 6	Mar. 31st—By Salaries	...	366 18 0	
1906.				" Books	...	122 16 10	
Mar 31st—To Rate at 1d. in the £	...	1010	0 0	" Newspapers & Periodicals	82	1 1	
" Fines,...	...	50	9 8	" Binding	...	94 15 5	
" Catalogues, &c.	...	3	3 8	" Printing	...	19 17 2	
" Re-Sales and Damages	...	2	6 0	" Light, Water, Fuel, and Cleaning	...	85 11 5	
" Fines, ... (Branch)	16	5 10	55 19 4	" Repairs and Sundries	...	53 2 5	
" Catalogues, &c.	6	1		" Total, Central Library	...	825 2 4	
" Re-Sales & Damages "	11	4		" Lecture Expenses,			
				(Central and Branch)			91 13 10
" Advertisements in			17 3 3				
Lecture programme			4 15 6				
				BRANCH LIBRARY.			
				" Salaries	...	70 8 4	
				" Books...	...	21 14 5	
				" Newspapers & Periodicals	27	1 0	
				" Binding	...	26 2 6	
				" Printing	...	2 12 4	
				" Light, Water, Fuel, and Cleaning	...	52 8 10	
				" Repairs and Sundries	...	23 3 4	
				" Total, Branch Library	...	223 10 9	
				" Balance in hand	...	410 19 8	



Borough of Aston Manor.

TWENTY-NINTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Free Libraries Committee,

APRIL 1st, 1906, to MARCH 31st, 1907,

Aston Manor:

Printed for the Free Libraries Committee

Geo. B. Robinson & Sons, Globe Works, High Street.

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Borough of Aston Manor.

Free Libraries Committee.

1905-6.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN ALFRED TAYLOR, J.P.)
COUN. H. GUEST, J.P., *Chairman*
COUNCILLOR T. P. BIRD.
COUNCILLOR F. GOODRICH.
COUNCILLOR A HARRIS, J.P.
COUNCILLOR G. HAYES.
MR. SIDNEY FISHER, J.P.
DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P., *Chairman of Book Sub-Committee.*
THE REV. G E PRICE.
THE REV. E DALE ROBERTS, M.A.
MR. WILLIAM UNITE.

1906-7.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN ALFRED TAYLOR, J.P.)
COUN. H. GUEST, J.P., *Chairman*
COUNCILLOR F. GOODRICH.
COUNCILLOR A. HARRIS, J.P.
COUNCILLOR G. HAYES.
COUNCILLOR E. SMITH.
MR. SIDNEY FISHER, J.P.
DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P., *Chairman of Book Sub-Committee.*
THE REV. G E PRICE.
THE REV. E. DALE ROBERTS, M.A.
MR. WILLIAM UNITE.

Hon. Sec.—MR. JOSEPH ANSELL, J.P., *Town Clerk*

Assist. Hon Sec.—MR WILLIAM THOMPSON, *Dep. Town Clerk.*

Chief Librarian.—MR. ROBERT K. DENT.

Assistant Librarian—MR. T. J. NEWELL.

Attendant and Caretaker at Branch Library—

MR. T. LOVEROCK.

Past Chairmen of the Free Libraries Committee.

1877-78. MR. EDWARD EVANS.
1878-83. DR. JOHN HARVEY,
1883-87. REV. FREDERICK SMITH, M.A.
1887-90. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.
1890-94. MR. JAMES OSBORNE.
1895-96. COUNCILLOR W. UNITE.
1896-97. COUNCILLOR W. E. COOKE,
1897-1900. COUNCILLOR H. GUEST.
1900-03. COUNCILLOR S. FISHER.
1903-04. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.

REPORT.

The Free Libraries Committee have pleasure in presenting the Twenty-ninth Annual Report of the work of the Libraries.

During the year, the crowded condition of the Library has necessitated the provision of new shelving. Three iron stacks have been erected at a cost of £54 10s., in place of two ordinary presses, affording accommodation for about 2,500 additional volumes.

The use of the new Dictionary Catalogue of the Lending Library during the past year has proved that this form of catalogue has an influence in leading to a demand for the more serious classes of literature. With a reduced total issue (being about 900 below that of the previous year), there is an increased issue from the non-fictional classes, (exclusive of magazines), of nearly 800.

Three catalogues have been prepared and published during the year, viz., a new edition of the Branch Library Catalogue, a Hand List of Fiction, and one of Musical Works in the Central Library; and there is evidence from the increased issues that the publication of the Branch Library Catalogue has awakened fresh interest in that Library.

Keeping in mind the importance of preserving everything accessible in the way of books, maps, and manuscripts bearing on the history of Aston Manor, the Committee have during the past year been fortunate enough to acquire at a small outlay two documents of great interest; viz., a Grant of the Manor of Aston to John Holte, by King Henry VI. bearing date 1441, and having a fine impression of the great seal of the realm attached thereto; also an interesting autograph letter of Edward Holte, (son of Sir Thomas, the first baronet) written from London to Richard Smalbroke of Birmingham, 15th October, 1637.

The Free Lectures continue to maintain their popularity, the audiences being up to the past average, while the programme of lectures was, if possible, of a higher average of excellence than hitherto. In addition to the fourteen lectures delivered at the Albert Hall, seven one-hour lectures have been delivered by the Chief Librarian in the Branch Reading Room (from nine to ten in the evening) most of them being illustrated by means of the lantern. These have also been well attended. The Committee here tender their thanks to the Lecturers for the valuable services thus rendered to the public through this institution. Lists of Lectures will be found on pages 15 and 16 of this report.

In the ensuing Records of Issues, Financial Statement, and other statistics, the year's work is set out in detail.

HENRY GUEST, J.P., *Chairman.*

ROBERT K. DENT, *Chief Librarian.*



REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

(*Opened January 4th, 1882, with 2,300 volumes.*)

Number of Volumes in the Reference Department, March 31st, 1907.

	<i>Plans. Vols. Pamphlets. Total</i>			
General Knowledge (Encyclopædias, Periodicals, etc.)	—	916	5	921
Philosophy	—	121	1	122
Religion	—	574	27	601
Sociology	—	231	98	329
Philology	—	126	17	143
Natural Science	—	762	29	791
Useful Arts (including Patent Abridgements)	—	1772	21	1793
Fine Arts	—	922	22	944
Literature—				
(a) General Literature	—	576	29	605
(b) Poetry and the Drama	—	541	—	541
(c) Prose Fiction	—	187	—	187
History—				
(a) General History	—	1113	8	1121
(b) Geography, Travel, and Topography	—	694	32	726
(c) Biography	—	586	21	607
(d) Local Books (Birmingham and Aston)	54	327	437	818
Total ...	54	9448	747	10249
<hr/>				
Contents of Reference Library.				
March 31st, 1906	54	9092	745	9891
Number of Vols. added during 1906-7	—	356	2	358
Total				10249

Classification of Volumes consulted in the Reference Department during the year ending March 31st, 1907.

General Knowledge	6751
Philosophy	266
Religion	1069
Sociology	491
Philology	1428
Natural Science	635
Useful Arts	785
Fine Arts	1047
Literature—	
(a) General Literature	682
(b) Poetry and the Drama	841
(c) Prose Fiction	264
History—	
(a) General History	857
(b) Geography, Travel, and Topography	1043
(c) Biography	908
(d) Local Books	373
Total	17440
<hr/>	
Number of days open	305
Daily Average	57.2

Principal Additions to the Library during the Year.

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Creighton's History of the Papacy, 6 vols. ; Kuenen's National Religions and Universal Religions ; Hastings' Dictionary of Christ and the Gospels, vol. 1 ; The Hammurabi Code, trans. by C. Edwards ; The Mystic Rose, by S. Crawley.

Properties of Matter, by Poynting and Thomson ; Dynamo Electric Machinery, by S. P. Thompson, vol. 2 ; Modern Practical Carpentry, by G. Ellis.

Preraphaelitism and the Preraphaelite Movement, by W. Holman Hunt, 2 vols. ; Selected Plates from Piranesi's Roman Antiquities, 2 vols. ; George Morland, by G. C. Williamson ; Gainsborough, by Mrs. A. Bell ; The Book of Photography, by P. N. Hasluck ; Practical Organ Building, by F. C. Robinson, 2 vols. ; The Bells of England, by J. J. Raven ; Westminster Abbey and the King's Craftsmen, by W. R. Lethaby ; Ecclesiastical Vestments, by Macalister.

Works of William Hazlitt, edited by Waller and Glover, 12 vols. ; 'The Bookman' History of English Literature, by T. Seccombe and W. R. Nicoll, 2 vols. ; The Book of Quotations, by W. G. Benham ; Poems of Thomas Chatterton, 2 vols.

Poems of Thomas Campion, edited by A. H. Bullen ; Satires of Andrew Marvel, ed. by G. A. Aitken ; Dramatic Works of T. W. Robertson, 2 vols. ; Piers Plowman's Vision and Creed, edited by T. Wright, 2 vols. ; Novels of Jane Austen, Winchester Edition, 10 vols.

The Political History of England, edited by W. Hunt and R. Lane Poole, 7 vols. ; Queen Anne, by Herbert Paul (Goupil Series) ; The Balfourian Parliament, by H. W. Lucy ; Parish Life in Mediaeval England, by F. A. Gasquet ; The Domesday Inquest, by A. Ballard ; Warwickshire depicted, by F. Whitehead, and described by Clive Holland ; Living London, by G. R. Sims, 3 vols. ; Parker's Archaeology of Rome, vols. 4-10 (completion) ; McCarthy's History of Our Own Time, 1897-1901, 2 vols. ; Unknown Mexico, by Lumholtz, 2 vols ; Malay Magic, by Skeat ; Bacon's World Atlas, 1907.

Reminiscences of Henry Irving, by Bram Stoker, 2 vols ; Life of Charles Lamb, by E. V. Lucas, 2 vols. ; Letters of Horace Walpole, edited by P. Cunningham, 9 vols. ; James Howell's Familiar Letters, edited by J. Jacobs ; Charles Dickens, by G. K. Chesterton.

CENTRAL LENDING LIBRARY.

Ethics and Atonement, by W. F. Lofthouse ; The City of God, by A. M. Fairbairn ; The Inspiration of Our Faith, by John Watson ; The New Theology, by R. J. Campbell ; The Epistles of St. Peter, by J. H. Jowett ; Disestablishment in France, by P. Sabatier.

Life of Lord Randolph Churchill, by W. S. Churchill, 2 vols.; Joseph Chamberlain; an honest biography, by A. Mackintosh; Life of J. A. Froude, by Herbert Paul; Sir Henry Irving, by P. Fitzgerald; Life of Richd. Cadbury, by Helen Alexander; Charles Dickens, by G. K. Chesterton; John Wesley and his Century by W. H. Fitchett; The Other Side of the Lantern, by Sir. F. Treves; Reminiscences of a Radical Parson, by W. Tuckwell.

History of the Ancient World, by G. S. Goodspeed; A Wanderer in London, by E. V. Lucas; The Blackmore Country, by F. J. Snell; Romance of Missionary Heroism, by J. C. Lambert; Chisholm's Commercial Geography; Johnson's Competitive Geography; Sims's Geography of Europe; Mill's Elementary General Geography; Our Heritage the Sea, by F. T. Bullen.

Aims and Ideals in Art, by G. Clausen; Manual of Historic Ornament, by R. Glazier; Embroidery and Tapestry, by Mrs. Christie; Romance of Modern Mechanism, by A. Williams; Spectroscopy, by E. C. C. Baly; Nature and Origin of Life, by F. Le Dantec; The Kingdom of Man, by E. R. Lankester; Hiorns' Metallography; Longmuir's Elementary Practical Metallurgy; Macfarlane's Laboratory Notes on Metallurgy; Bailey's Tutorial Chemistry. 2 vols.; Bailey's Matriculation Chemistry; Bailey's Second Stage Inorganic Chemistry; Gooch and Walker's Outlines of Inorganic Chemistry; Young's First Book of Geometry; Mackay's Plane Geometry.

The Upton Letters, by A. C. Benson; Through a College Window, by A. C. Benson; Social Silhouettes, by G. W. E. Russell; Provincial Letters, by H. C. Beeching; The Mirror of the Sea, by Jos. Conrad; Reminiscences of the Haymarket Theatre, by Cyril Maude.

176 volumes of recent Fiction.

Thirty-eight volumes of Magazines.

Twenty-three volumes of recent Juvenile Literature.

BRANCH LENDING LIBRARY.

Introduction to the Study of the Bible, by E. P. Barrows; Memoirs of Norman MacLeod, by D. MacLeod; The Brighton Road, by C. G. Harper; Morley's Life of Cobden; Elementary Lessons in Logic, by W. S. Jevons; Scenes through the Battle Smoke, by A. Male; Modern Thoughts on Life and Conduct, ed. by H. W. Smith; Sevastopol and other Sketches, by L. Tolstoi; Old Oscar and other Sketches, by Sir. H. G. Reid; Aurora Leigh, by E. B. Browning; Poems by C. Kingsley; The Hope of the World, by W. Watson; Fidelio, by Beethoven; The May Queen, by W. S. Bennett.

117 volumes of Fiction.

33 volumes of Magazines.

10 volumes of Juvenile Literature.

LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

Number of Volumes, March 31st, 1907.

CENTRAL LIBRARY, WITTON ROAD,

(*Opened February 4th, 1878, with 2700 volumes.*)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	548
Biography, History, Topography, Voyages and Travels	...	...	...	1491
Sociology	...	...	...	118
Arts and Sciences and Natural History	...	...	...	843
Games, Sports and Recreations	...	...	...	39
Poetry and the Drama...	...	...	...	369
Prose Fiction	...	...	...	408
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	1100
Magazines and Reviews	...	...	...	1967
* Music	...	...	...	367
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	883
Total				11763
				<hr/>
Total of Lending Department, March 31st, 1906	...	...	...	11415
Deduct by vols. discarded, being duplicates, or worn out and not replaced	...	...	...	2
				11413
Number of vols. added during the year	...	...	...	350
				11763
				<hr/>

BRANCH LIBRARY, ASTON CROSS,

(*Lending Department opened December 14th, 1903.*)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	66
Biography, History, Travels, etc	...	...	...	210
Sociology	...	...	...	14
Arts, Sciences, and Natural History	...	...	...	107
Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	52
Fiction	...	...	...	1029
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	59
Magazines	...	...	...	100
* Music	...	...	...	77
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	213
Books of Reference, Encyclopædias, Dictionaries, Concordances, etc.	...	...	...	65
Total				1992
				<hr/>
Number of volumes in the Library, March 31st, 1906	...	...	...	1809
Number added during the year	...	...	...	183
				1992
				<hr/>
Total number of Volumes in Lending Libraries	...	...	...	13755

* *i.e., Musical Compositions:* Works on the History and Theory of Music, Exercises, etc., are counted in the Arts and Sciences Class.

LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

STATISTICS OF ISSUES.

Classification of Volumes Issued from the Lending
Libraries during the year 1906-7.

	<i>Central.</i>	<i>Branch.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Religion and Philosophy ...	520	83	603
Biography, History, Travel, etc. ...	1812	557	2369
Sociology ...	167	13	180
Arts, Sciences and Natural History	1946	230	2176
Poetry and the Drama ...	438	132	570
Prose Fiction ...	57312	17549	74861
Miscellaneous Literature ...	1831	152	1983
Magazines ...	4312	865	5177
Juvenile Books ...	19068	4927	23995
Unbound Periodicals ...	171	—	171
Renewals ...	7039	1613	8652
Music ...	2261	328	2589
	<u>96877</u>	<u>26449</u>	<u>123326</u>
Daily Average ...	317.6	87	404.6

Monthly Totals, 1906-7.

	<i>Central.</i>	<i>Branch.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
April ...	8205	2107	10312
May ...	8871	2273	11144
June ...	7696	2029	9725
July ...	7056	1781	8837
August ...	6878	1704	8582
September ...	7381	2027	9408
October ...	8586	2251	10837
November ...	8467	2289	10756
December ...	7921	2216	10137
January ...	8748	2675	11423
February ...	8158	2520	10678
March ...	8910	2577	11487
	<u>96877</u>	<u>26449</u>	<u>123326</u>

Grand Total of Issues, 1878-1907.

From the Lending and Reference Libraries.

Year Ending	Central Lending	Branch Lending	Reference
March, 1879	... 75,036 ...	— ...	—
„ 1880	... 70,914 ...	— ...	—
„ 1881	... 67,583 ..	— ...	—
„ 1882	... 66,092 ...	— ...	2,109
„ 1883	... 75,395 ...	— ...	8,096
„ 1884	... 69,247 ..	— ...	11,041
„ 1885	... 77,219 ...	— ..	12,380
„ 1886	... 73,368 ...	— ...	14,599
„ 1887	... 94,979 ...	— ...	16,208
„ 1888	... 91,761 ...	— ...	16,769
„ 1889	... 82,605 ...	— ...	14,199
„ 1890	... 67,467 ...	— ...	16,616
„ 1891	... 67,692 ...	— ...	18,485
„ 1892	... 77,621 ...	— ...	15,311
„ 1893	... 81,319 ...	— ...	12,012
„ 1894	... 84,026 ..	— ...	12,599
„ 1895	... 82,036 ...	— ...	14,967
„ 1896	... 87,100 ...	— ...	12,409
„ 1897	... 67,593 ..	— ...	10,401
„ 1898	... 62,874 ..	— .	11,287
„ 1899	... 63,682 ...	— ...	10,959
„ 1900	... 72,724 ...	... ...	10,698
„ 1901	... 80,150 ...	— ...	14,309
„ 1902	... 82,032 ...	— ...	14,114
„ 1903	... 90,051 ...	— ...	15,849
„ 1904	... 87,545 ...	8,291 ...	17,264
„ 1905	... 89,904 ...	31,370 ...	17,604
„ 1906	... 97,790 ...	27,661 ..	17,172
„ 1907	... 96,877 ...	26,449 ...	17,440
	<u>2,282,682</u>	<u>93,771</u>	<u>354,897</u>

Grand Total of Issues in all Departments since the opening of the Libraries

2,731,350

Central Reading Rooms.

(Opened January 4th, 1882.)

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those Marked thus are * presented by the Publishers.*

Daily.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily News
„ Gazette-Express (3)	„ Daily Telegraph
„ Daily Mail (3)	„ Morning Leader
„ Daily Post (4)	„ Standard
London Daily Chronicle	„ Times
„ Daily Graphic	„ Tribune
„ Daily Mail	

Weekly.

Aston News	Illustrated London News
Aston Villa (Football) News	Inquirer
Athenæum	*Journal of the Society of Arts
Baptist	Labour News
*Belfast Weekly News	*Lincoln and Stamford Mercury
*Birmingham Owl	Liverpool Weekly Post
„ Pictorial and Dart	*Local Government Chronicle
„ Weekly Mercury	London Opinion
„ Weekly Post	M.A.P.
Black and White	Methodist Recorder
*Board of Trade Journal	*Midland Counties Herald
British Congregationalist	*Motor Traction
British Weekly	Nation
Building News	Nature
Bystander	Notes and Queries
*Cambrian News	*Patents: Illustrated Official Journal
*Canada	Phonetic Journal
Christian World	Public Opinion
Church Family Newspaper	Punch
*Civil Service Aspirant	Queen
*Civil Service Weekly	Reader
Contract Journal	Saturday Review
*Co-operative News	School Government Chronicle
*Drapers' Record	Scientific American
Dublin Freeman's Journal	Scotsman
Electrical Review	*Shop Assistant
Electrician	Sketch
Engineer	Spectator
Engineering	Sphere
English Mechanic	T.P.'s Weekly
Field	Tablet
Garden	Truth
Gardening	*University Correspondent
Gentleman	*Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser
*Gloucestershire Chronicle	*Western Weekly News
Graphic	Westminster Gazette (Sat. edition)
Guardian	*Worcester Journal (Berrow's)
Harper's Weekly	Work
Hereford Times	Yorkshire Post

MONTHLY.

- *Animals' Friend
- Architectural Review
- *Arms and Explosives
- Art Journal
- *Astonia
- *B'ham King Edw. School Chronicle
- Blackwood's Magazine
- Bookman
- Burlington Magazine
- Captain, The
- Cassell's Magazine
- Century Magazine
- Chambers's Journal
- Contemporary Review
- Cornhill
- *Educational Review
- *Educational Times
- English Illustrated Magazine
- *Foester's Miscellany
- Fortnightly Review
- Harper's Monthly Magazine
- *Herald of the Golden Age
- *Humanitarian
- Idler
- *Insurance Agent and Review
- *Journal of Incorp. Soc. of Musicians
- Knowledge
- *Labour Gazette
- Library Association Record
- Library World
- Literary World
- London, The
- Macmillan's Magazine
- *Mermaid, The (B'ham University)
- *Mining Journal of Queenstown Govt.
- Monthly Review
- *Musical Herald
- Musical Times
- New Church Magazine
- Nineteenth Century and After
- *Our Own Magazine (Y.W.C.A.)
- Pall Mall Magazine
- Pearson's Magazine
- *Philatelic Chronicle
- Photogram
- *Plumber and Decorator
- Quiver
- *Reg. Gen.'s List of Deceased Seamen
- Review of Reviews
- *State Correspondent
- Strand Magazine
- Sunday at Home
- *University Correspondent
- *Vaccination Inquirer
- *Vegetarian Messenger
- Wide World Magazine
- Windsor Magazine
- *Woodworker and Art Metal Worker
- Woman at Home
- *Zoophilist

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

- Bradshaw's Railway Guide
- *Everybody's Time Table
- *Great Eastern Railway
- *Great Western Railway
- *Hammond's Railway Guide
- *London & North-Western Railway
- *London & South-Western Railway
- *Midland Railway
- *North-Eastern Railway
- *White & Pike's Railway Guide

QUARTERLY, &c.

- Birmingham Magazine
- *Emigrant's Information Circulars
- *Kynoch Journal
- St. George: Journal of the Birmingham Ruskin Society
- *Travel
- *Tuberculosis

ANNUAL.

- Academy Notes
- Academy Pictures (Cassell)
- *The ABC Press Directory
- Birmingham Red Book
- B'ham Soc. of Artists' Catalogue
- *Calendar of Birmingham University
- *Calendar of Durham University
- *Daily Mail Year Book
- Directories (Birmingham, London, Liverpool, Manchester, etc.)
- Financial Reform Almanack
- Hazell's Annual
- Incorporated Society of Musicians' Year Book
- The Insurance Register
- Library Association Year Book
- Literary Year Book
- Low's English Catalogue ; Annual Supplement
- Municipal Year Book
- National Union of Teachers Year Book
- Smithsonian Instit'n Annual Report
- *Stubbs' Directory
- Studio Extra Numbers
- *Transactions of the Archæological Section, Midland Institute
- Whitaker's Almanack
- The Year's Art

BRANCH READING ROOM,

ASTON CROSS.

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those Marked thus * are presented by the Publishers.*

DAILY.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily News
„ Gazette-Express (2)	„ Daily Mail
„ Daily Mail (2)	„ Daily Telegraph
„ Daily Post (4)	„ Standard
London Daily Chronicle	

WEEKLY.

*Aston News	Labour News
Athenæum (second week)	London Opinion
*Birmingham Owl	M.A.P.
„ Weekly Mercury	*Midland Counties Herald
„ Weekly Post	*Phonetic Journal
Bystander (second week)	Public Opinion
Cassell's Saturday Journal	Punch
Electrician (second week)	Queen (second week)
Electrical Review (second week)	Reader
Engineer	Saturday Review (second week)
Engineering (second week)	Scientific American (second week)
English Mechanic	*Shop Assistant
Field (second week)	Sketch (second week)
Garden	Spectator (second week)
Gardening	Sphere (second week)
Gentlewoman (second week)	T.P.'s Weekly
Graphic	Truth (second week)
Harper's Weekly (second week)	Westminster Gazette Saturday d)
Illustrated London News	Work

MONTHLY.

Band of Hope Review (2)	London, The
British Workman	Pall Mall Magazine
Captain, The	Pearson's Magazine
Cassell's Magazine	Strand Magazine
Chambers's Journal	Sunday at Home
Cottager and Artisan	Windsor Magazine
English Illustrated Magazine	Woman at Home
Labour Gazette	*Zoophilist
Literary World	

RAILWAY TIME=TABLES.

Bradshaw's Railway Guide	*London & South Western Railway
*Great Eastern Railway	*Midland Railway
*Great Western Railway	*North Eastern Railway
*London & North Western Railway	*White and Pike Railway Guide

General Summary of the Work of the Library

In all its departments during the Year ending March 31st, 1907.

Total Number of Volumes in, and of Issues from, the Libraries :—

	No. of Volumes.	Issues during 1906-7.
Reference Library ...	10249	17,440
Central Lending Library ...	11763	96,877
Branch Library, Aston Cross	1992	26,449
	<u>24,004</u>	<u>140,766</u>

Estimated Total Attendance at the Fourteen Free Lectures ..	5,600
„ „ „ Seven Branch Library Lectures ...	900
Number of Volumes added to the Reference Library ...	358
„ „ added to the Central Lending Library ...	342
„ „ added to the Branch Library ...	183
„ Notifications paid for ...	Central 196
„ „ „ ...	Branch 60
„ Pence paid as Fines for Detention of Books	Central 12,323
„ „ „ „ „	Branch 4,031
„ Worn-out Volumes Replaced ...	Central 306
„ „ „ „ „	Branch 4
„ Books re-bound, bound from paper covers, or repaired by binder ...	Central 406
„ „ „ „ „	Branch 209
„ Volumes of Periodicals bound (Reference and Lending)	75
Daily Average Issue, Reference ...	57·2
„ „ Central Lending ...	317·6
„ „ Branch Lending ...	87
Number of Borrowers' Tickets issued during the year	Central 1,382*
„ „ „ „ „	Branch 467
Present Total of Borrowers using the Central Library	about 3,000
„ „ „ Branch „	about 700

* Does not include the Second Tickets issued for Music.

FREE LECTURES.

THE TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL COURSE OF FREE LECTURES, delivered under the auspices of the FREE LIBRARIES COMMITTEE, consisted of fourteen Lectures. They were as follows:—

1906.

- Oct. 1st. THE REV T. F. NICHOLAS, M.A., F.R.G.S.
"The Destruction of San Francisco" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Oct. 15th. THE REV. R. R. RODGERS.
"Among the Arabs in Algeria" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Oct. 30th. THE REV. E. DALE ROBERTS, M.A.
"My Visit to New Zealand" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Nov. 6th. CHARLES P. PERRY, ESQ., F.R.G.S.
"Recent Excavations at Pompeii" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Nov. 20th. FREDK. LAMBERT, ESQ., F.R.G.S.
"Through the Crystal Caves of New South Wales" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Dec. 4th. FRED. SAXBY, ESQ.
"In Crystal Wonderland" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Dec. 18th. WILLIAM IZON, ESQ.
"The English Lakeland" (with Limelight Illustrations).

1907.

- Jan. 1st. CHARLES B. HOWDILL, ESQ., F.R.I.B.A.
"Corsica; the Isle of Unrest" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Jan. 15th. JAMES BAKER, ESQ., F.R.G.S., F.R.S.L.
"Bohemia of To-day" with Limelight Illustrations.
- Jan. 29th. THE REV. CANON SUTTON, M.A.
"Charles Dickens's "Bleak House."
- Feb. 12th. W. H. SHRUBSOLE, ESQ., F.G.S.
"Curious Dwellers on our Shores" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Feb. 26th. THE REV. R. H. COATS, M.A., B.D.
"Scottish Social Life in Song and Ballad" (with Musical Illustrations by Miss Clare Gilbert, Madame Nellie Pritchard, Mr. Fred Thomas, and Mr. Arnold Griffin).
- Mar. 12th. J. POTTER BRISCOE, ESQ., F.R.H.S., F.R.S.L.
"Sunny Memories of Foreign Lands" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Mar. 26th. GEO SEATREE, ESQ.
"Mountaineering and Rock Climbing in the British Isles" (with Limelight Illustrations).

Lectures in the Branch Reading Room,

Aston Cross.

Seven Monthly Talks, or One Hour Lectures, were delivered by the Chief Librarian in the Branch Reading Room, commencing each evening at nine and concluding at ten o'clock. They were as follows :—

1906.

October 8th.

“The Story of Aston Manor,”—With Limelight Illustrations.

November 5th.

“The Mother of Parliaments : Pictures and Stories of the English Parliament,”—With Limelight Illustrations.

December 3rd.

“Wanderings Westward : South Wales, Somerset, and North Devon,”—With Limelight Illustrations.

1907.

January 7th.

“The Humour of Thomas Hood.”

February 4th.

“Over the Pages of ‘Punch,’”—With Limelight Illustrations.

March 4th.

“Wanderings in North Wales,”—With Limelight Illustrations.

April 8th.

“A Coasting Trip from Liverpool to London,”—With Limelight Illustrations.

List of Donations to the Library, DURING THE YEAR.

Anti-Vivisection Society—

The Zoophilist, monthly, as published.
The Animal's Friend, monthly, as published.

Aston Manor. Corporation of—

Council Minutes, 1905-6.

Aston Manor Institutions, Reports from—

Borough Treasurer	|	Nursing Institution
Fire Brigade	|	Relief Association
Education Committee	|	Sanitary Inspector
Medical Officer of Health	|	Technical School

Birmingham and Midland Institute Archæological Society (*per* *A. Hayes. Esq.*).

Transactions of the Archæological Society for 1905.

Birmingham University—

Calendar of the University, 1906-7.

Board of Trade—

The Board of Trade Journal, as published.
Labour Gazette, as published, 2 copies.

British Museum, The Trustees of—

Subject Index of Modern Works (1901-5).

British Museum (Natural History Department)—

Catalogue of Tertiary Vertebrata.
Synonymic Catalogue of Homoptera.
Guide to the Gallery of Reptilia and Amphibia.

Briscoe, J. Potter, Esq.—

Pickwickian Wit and Humour (Bibelot).

Co-operative Union Ltd.—

Report of the Birmingham Congress, 1906.

Durham University of—

Calendar of the University, 1907.

Emigrants' Information Office—

Quarterly Circulars of Information for Emigrants.

Fraser, Malcolm A. C., Esq.

Western Australian Year Book, 1902—4.

Gillespie, Mrs. H.—

On the Existence of God, by W. H. Gillespie.

Health Resort Handbooks —

(Various) from the respective Town Clerks.

Hill, Joseph, Esq.—

Journal of the Life of Thomas Story (1747).

Kynoch's Ltd.—

Kynoch Journal.

Libraries, Public ; Reports, Catalogues, &c., from—

Aberdeen, Ashton-under-Lyne, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Battersea, Bebington, Belfast, Birmingham, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Bootle, Bradford, Brierley Hill, Brighton, Bristol, Buxton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Chelsea, Chorley, Cork, Croydon, Derby, Dudley, Dukinfield, Dundee, Ealing, Eastbourne, Finsbury, Folkestone, Fulham, Glasgow (Baillie's), Glasgow (Stirling's), Gloucester, Hammersmith, Handsworth, Hanley, Hastings, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Kensal Rise, Kettering, Kimberley, S.A., Kidderminster, Leeds, Leek (Nicholson Institute), Leicester, Leyton, Lincoln, Liverpool, London (Bishopgate Foundation), London (Cripplegate Foundation), Longton, Loughborough, Malvern, New York, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Nottingham, Oldbury, Osaka, Penarth, Perth, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Preston, Richmond, St Helen's, Shore-ditch, Smethwick, Stockport, Stoke Newington, Tynemouth, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Warrington, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, West Bromwich, Westminster, Weston-Super-Mare, Wigan, Willesden (Kilburn), Willesden (Harlesden), Willesden Green, Wimbledon, Worcester, Great Yarmouth, York.

Patent Office—

Patents Illustrated Official Journal, weekly, as published.
Abridgments of Patents, in Classes, as published.
Patent Office Library Series, as published.

Pratt, Edwin A., Esq. (Author)—

Licensing and Temperance.

Registrar General, The—

Monthly List of Deceased Seamen, as published.

Society of Arts, The—

Journal of the Society, weekly, as published.

University Tutorial Press—

London University Calender, 1907.

Vegetarian Society, The—

Vegetarian Messenger, monthly, as published.

Also the Newspapers and Periodicals (from their respective publishers) marked thus * in the lists on pages 11-13.

The William Ansell Bequest.

Amount of Bequest	...	...	£1000 0 0
Bank Interest to December 31st, 1906	...		59 13 5
			<u>£1059 13 5</u>

FINANCIAL STATEMENT,

Year ending March 31st, 1907,

Income.						
1906 April 1st—To Balance in hand	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1907. Mar. 31st—To Rate at 1d. in the £	...			410	19	8
" Fines	51	6	11	1025	0	0
" Catalogues, &c.	13	7	2			
" Re-Sales and Damages ..	2	11	0			
" Fines (Branch)	16	15	11			
" Catalogues &c. "	2	0	6			
" Re-Sales & Damages "	4		6			
" Advertisements in Lecture programme	4	0	6			
" Catalogues	18	6	6			
				108	13	0
	£154	12	8			

Expenditure.						
1907. Mar. 31st - By Salaries	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
" Books	361	2	8			
" Newspapers & Periodicals	144	16	10			
" Binding	83	0	0			
" Printing*	51	0	11			
" Light, Water, Fuel, and Cleaning	100	8	4			
" Repairs and Sundries ...	85	13	1			
<i>Total, Central Library</i>	106	7	1			
(Central and Branch)				992	8	11
				62	12	8

BRANCH LIBRARY.						
" Salaries	76	18	4			
" Books	9	16	7			
" Newspapers & Periodicals	26	16	2			
" Binding	16	15	11			
" Printing "	19	0	6			
" Light, Water, Fuel, and Cleaning	48	10	6			
" Repairs and Sundries ...	8	17	4			
<i>Total, Branch Library</i>				206	15	4
" Balance in hand	282	15	9			
	£154	12	8			

* This includes cost of printing Central Lending Library Catalogue and Hand Lists of Fiction and Music.
† Includes cost of New Book-Stacks and alteration of Indicator (Fiction).

1907/08



Borough of Aston Manor.

THIRTIETH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Free Libraries Committee,

APRIL 1st, 1907, to MARCH 31st, 1908.

Aston Manor :

Printed for the Free Libraries Committee.

Geo. Roobottom & Sons, Globe Works, High Street

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Borough of Aston Manor.

Free Libraries Committee.

1906-7.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN ALFRED TAYOR, J.P.)
COUN. H. GUEST, J.P., *Chairman*
COUNCILLOR F. GOODRICH.
COUNCILLOR A. HARRIS, J.P.
COUNCILLOR G. HAYES.
COUNCILLOR E. SMITH.
MR. SIDNEY FISHER, J.P.
DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P., *Chairman of Book Sub-Committee.*
THE REV. G. E. PRICE.
THE REV. E. DALE ROBERTS, M.A.
MR. WILLIAM UNITE.

1907-8.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN ALFRED TAYLOR, J.P.)
ALD. H. GUEST, J.P., *Chairman*
COUNCILLOR J. E. BERRY.
COUNCILLOR R. HOLLICK, C.C.
COUNCILLOR H. McCALÉ.
COUNCILLOR E. SMITH.
MR. SIDNEY FISHER, J.P.
DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P., *Chairman of Book Sub-Committee.*
THE REV. G. E. PRICE.
REV. CANON E DALE ROBERTS M.A.
MR. WILLIAM UNITE.

Hon. Sec.—MR. JOSEPH ANSELL, J.P., *Town Clerk*

Assist. Hon Sec.—MR. WILLIAM THOMPSON, *Dep. Town Clerk.*

Chief Librarian.—MR. ROBERT K. DENT.

Assistant Librarian—MR T. J. NEWELL.

Attendant and Caretaker at Branch Library—

MR. T. LOVEROCK.

Past Chairmen of the Free Libraries Committee.

1877-78. MR. EDWARD EVANS.
1878-83. DR. JOHN HARVEY.
1883-87. REV. FREDERICK SMITH, M.A.
1887-90. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.
1890-94. MR. JAMES OSBORNE.
1895-96. COUNCILLOR W. UNITE.
1896-97. COUNCILLOR W. E. COOKE.
1897-1900. COUNCILLOR H. GUEST.
1900-03. COUNCILLOR S. FISHER.
1903-04. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.

REPORT.

The Free Libraries Committee have pleasure in presenting the Thirtieth Annual Report of the work of the Libraries.

It is gratifying to find that, notwithstanding the issue of nearly 26,000 volumes from the Branch Library, the Central Library more than maintains the position it held before the establishment of the Branch, and that, in fact, both the Lending and Reference Libraries show an increase of issues over last year. The total issues from all departments amount to 141,959.

In view of the possible risk of infection being conveyed in Library books—even after they have been properly disinfected by the Health Department, as has hitherto been the practice—the Committee have now determined to destroy all books from infected houses, thus ensuring that no books which may have been borrowed by occupants of infected dwellings shall in future find their way into other hands, or to the Library shelves. To further ensure this, the Health Officers furnish the Librarian with lists of cases every week, and these are carefully compared with the lists of Borrowers from the Libraries.

During the year the Committee have had under consideration the provision of Books for the Blind, and as a beginning have purchased about thirty volumes, comprising a selection of popular novels, poetry, and biography. Already a few readers have availed themselves of the privilege thus afforded, and it is hoped, as the number increases, to make further additions to this section. The books already purchased include a selection of the older "Moon" type as well as the more modern "Braille," as many of the older readers are only able to use the former. The Committee have also provided the weekly edition of the "Daily Mail" in Braille type for the Central Reading Room.

The additions to the Reference Library during the year include a number of important and valuable works, some of which have been presented to the Library. Among these, mention should be made of the beautiful work by the Hon. Mrs. Evelyn Cecil, "London Parks and Gardens," presented by the author; the set of the "Sphere," (illustrated newspaper) from the commencement, presented by Mr. W. E. Cooke; and the donations of the Trustees of the British Museum and of the Natural History Museum

as set forth in the List of Donations. Among the former are continuation volumes of the Medallic Illustrations of British History and the annotated Catalogue of the Thomason Collection of Civil War and Commonwealth Tracts, while the latter include further volumes of the beautifully illustrated Catalogues of Madreporarian Corals and of the Lepidoptera, and an illustrated monograph on the British Blood-Sucking Flies.

The additions by purchase include a number of exceedingly valuable illustrated works purchased on very favourable terms from the Birmingham Free Libraries Committee, being duplicates. Among these are: Daniell's Voyage round Great Britain, containing over 300 coloured illustrations of Coast Scenery, 8 vols. in 4; Layard's Monuments of Nineveh, 2 vols. folio; Gally Knight's Saracenic and Norman Remains in Sicily; Birch's Heads of Illustrious Persons, etc.

The interest manifested in Aston Hall by those residing at a distance from this neighbourhood is shown by two gifts of valuable pictures of the Hall received during the year: one, a painting by J. J. Hughes, East View, 1851, presented by Mr. J. Thomas of Aberystwyth, and the other a small but rare coloured print (circa 1775), presented by Mr. J. Cockcroft, chief librarian of Hereford.

The Free Lectures continue to maintain their popularity, the audiences being up to the past average, while the programme of Lectures was of the usual high standard of excellence. In addition to the fifteen lectures delivered at the Albert Hall, seven one-hour lectures have been delivered by the Chief Librarian in the Branch Reading Room (from nine to ten in the evening), most of them being illustrated by means of the lantern. These have also been well attended. The Committee here tender their thanks to the Lecturers for the valuable services rendered to the public through this institution. Lists of Lectures will be found on pages 15 and 16 of this report.

In the ensuing Records of Issues, Financial Statement, and other statistics, the year's work is set out in detail.

HENRY GUEST, J.P., *Chairman.*

ROBERT K. DENT, *Chief Librarian.*

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

(Opened January 4th, 1882, with 2,300 volumes.)

Number of Volumes in the Reference Department, March 31st, 1908.

	<i>Plans. Vols. Pamphlets. Total</i>			
General Knowledge (Encyclopædias, Periodicals, etc.)	—	1028	11	1039
Philosophy	—	124	1	125
Religion	—	586	28	614
Sociology	—	236	103	339
Philology	—	126	17	143
Natural Science	—	780	32	812
Useful Arts (including Patent Abridgements)	—	1800	21	1821
Fine Arts	—	952	24	976
Literature—				
(a) General Literature	—	583	31	614
(b) Poetry and the Drama	—	559	1	560
(c) Prose Fiction	—	188	—	188
History—				
(a) General History	—	1151	10	1161
(b) Geography, Travel, and Topography	—	716	34	750
(c) Biography	—	591	22	613
(d) Local Books (Birmingham and Aston)	54	348	445	847
Total ...	54	9768	780	10602
<hr/>				
Contents of Reference Library.				
March 31st, 1907	54	9448	747	10249
Number of Vols. added during 1907-8	—	320	33	353
Total				10602

Classification of Volumes consulted in the Reference Department during the year ending March 31st, 1908.

General Knowledge	6732
Philosophy	251
Religion	1348
Sociology	473
Philology	1648
Natural Science	629
Useful Arts	841
Fine Arts	1023
Literature—	
(a) General Literature	732
(b) Poetry and the Drama	900
(c) Prose Fiction	293
History—	
(a) General History	1055
(b) Geography, Travel, and Topography	1026
(c) Biography	981
(d) Local Books	298
Total	18230
<hr/>	
Number of days open	309
Daily Average	59

Principal Additions to the Library during the Year.

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Dictionary of Christ and the Gospels, ed. by J. Hastings, vol. 2; History of Congregationalism, by R. W. Dale; The New Theology, by R. J. Campbell; Calamy's Nonconformists' Memorial, 3 vols.; The Romantic History of Buddha, trans. by S. Beal; etc.

British Trees, by R. Vicat Cole, 2 vols.; British Museum Natural History Publications, as per List of Donations.

Byzantine Architecture, by Texier and Pullen; Early Renaissance Architecture in England, by J. A. Gotch; English Church Furniture, by J. C. Cox and A. Harvey; Monograms in 3 and 4 Letters, by J. G. Smith; Saracenic and Norman Architecture of Italy, by H. Gally Knight; John Hassall and Frank Reynolds, by A. E. Johnson (Brush. Pen and Pencil series) Ornament in European Silks, by A. S. Cole; Art Treasures of the United Kingdom, by J. B. Waring; etc.

The Cambridge History of English Literature, vol. 1; The Marginal Notes of Lord Macaulay; Lays of France, by A. O'Shaughnessy; Poems of George Meredith, 2 vols.; Poetical Works of John Skelton, ed. by Dyce, 2 vols.; Deutsche Lyrik (Golden Treasury series); etc.

Voyage round Great Britain, by W. Daniells, 8 vols. (in 4); Layard's Monuments of Nineveh, 2 vols.; Victoria History of Warwickshire, vol. 2; Memorials of Old Warwickshire, ed. by A. Dryden; London Parks and Gardens, by the Hon. Mrs. Evelyn Cecil; Lhasa, by Percival Landon, 2 vols.; Central Asia and Tibet, by Sven Hedin, 2 vols.; The Voyage of the "Discovery," by Capt. Scott, 2 vols.; Photographs of Mashonaland, taken during the British occupation, 1891, by W. Ellerton Fry; Life of Edward Fitzgerald, by T. Wright, 2 vols.; Life of Charles Dickens as revealed in his Writings, by P. Fitzgerald.

John Baskerville, by R. Straus and R. K. Dent; Book Makers of Old Birmingham, by J. Hill; etc.

CENTRAL LENDING LIBRARY.

The New Evangelism, by H. Drummond; The Ascent through Christ, by E. G. Jones; The New Theology, by R. J. Campbell; The New Theology and the Old Religion, by Bishop Gore; The Gospel of Grace, by J. D. Jones; Manual of Ethics, by J. S. Mackenzie; The Groundwork of Psychology, by G. F. Stout; etc.

Autobiography of Sir W. Besant; Mrs. Brookfield and her Circle, by C. and F. Brookfield; In the Sixties and Seventies, by L. H. Friswell; Lord Randolph Churchill, by his son, 2 vols.; Lord R. Churchill, by Lord Rosebery; Life and Letters of E. A. Freeman, 2 vols.; Memoirs of the Duke of St. Simon, 4 vols.; Life of Tennyson, by his son, 2 vols.

Rulers of the South, 2 vols., and Gleanings from Venetian History, by F. M. Crawford; The Spanish Conquest of America, by Sir A. Helps, 4 vols.; Garibaldi's Defence of the Roman Republic, by G. M. Trevelyan; The Great Zimbabwe, by R. F. Hall; The Voyage of the "Discovery," by Capt. Scott, 2 vols.; Adventures in Great Deserts, by H. W. G. Hurst; A Book of the Pyrenees, and A Book of the Cevennes, by S. Baring Gould; The Netherworld of Mendip, by A. E. Baker and H. E. Balch; Picturesque Warwickshire, by W. S. Brassington; Highways and Byways series: Dorset and Kent; etc.

Renaissance Architecture in England, by R. Bloomfield; Art Studies from Nature, by F. E. Hulme, etc.; Romance of Modern Photography, by C. R. Gibson; Perspective Pen-Drawing, by S. Polak; Practical Surveying, by G. W. Usill; The Chemistry of Gas Manufacture, by H. M. Royle; Liquid and Gaseous Fuels, by V. B. Lewes; Physics and Chemistry of Mining, by T. H. Byrom; Tools for Engineers and Woodworkers, by J. Horner; Engineering Workshop Practice, by C. C. Allen; *New Editions of Text Books* of Hydrostatics, Chemistry, Heat, Light, and Sound, Technical Electricity, Experimental Science, etc.; Properties of Matter, new edition, by P. G. Tait; Modern Views on Electricity, by Sir O. Lodge; Structural Botany, by D. H. Scott, 2 vols.; Birds of the Countryside, by F. E. Hulme; Wayside and Woodland Trees, by E. Step; Pets and how to keep them, by F. Finn; The Woman's Library (Handbooks of Women's Work, Education, Professions, etc.) 6 vols.

Studies in Poetry, by Stopford Brooke; Historical Essays and Studies by Lord Acton; Commentary on Tennyson's "In Memoriam," by A. C. Bradley; Shakspeare, his Mind and Art, by E. Dowden; Shakespeare and the Modern Stage, by Sidney Lee; Where the Forest Murmurs, by "Fiona Macleod"; Popular Fallacies, by A. S. E. Ackermann; The Comments of Bagshot, by J. A. Spender; Seeing and Hearing, and A Pocketful of Sixpences, by G. W. E. Russell; The Thread of Gold. and Beside Still Waters, by A. C. Benson; Some Literary Eccentrics, by J. Fyvie; Victorian Novelists, by L. Melville; Through the Magic Door, by A. Conan Doyle; Confessio Medici (by Stephen Paget), etc.

The Oxford Book of French Verse; Poems and Ballads (second and third series), and A Midsummer Holiday, by A. C. Swinburne; The Plays of George Bernard Shaw, 5 vols.; etc.

27 volumes of Books for the Blind, including novels by Boothby, Dickens, Doyle, Anthony Hope, Alice Hegan Rice, Ralph Connor, etc; other works by C. H. Spurgeon, M. G. Pearse, Mrs. Charles, etc., and Poems by Burns, Longfellow, and Tennyson.

175 volumes of recent Fiction.

36 volumes of Magazines, in continuation.

35 volumes of Juvenile Literature, including the Child's Book of Stars, by G. E. Mitton; The Peter Pan Picture Book; Our Island Story, by H. E. Marshall; The Shakespeare Story Book, by M. Maclean, etc.

BRANCH LENDING LIBRARY.

74 volumes of Recent Works in Various Classes.

LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

Number of Volumes, March 31st, 1908.

CENTRAL LIBRARY, WITTON ROAD,

(*Opened February 4th, 1878, with 2700 volumes.*)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	560
Biography, History, Topography, Voyages and Travels	...	...	...	1540
Sociology	...	...	...	124
Arts and Sciences and Natural History	...	...	...	900
Games, Sports and Recreations	...	...	...	41
Poetry and the Drama...	...	...	...	382
Prose Fiction	...	...	...	4207
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	1136
Magazines and Reviews	...	..	...	2053
* Music	...	...	...	374
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	928
Books for the Blind (Braille and Moon Type)	...	...	...	27
Total				12272
				11763
Total of Lending Department, March 31st, 1907	...	...	...	11763
Deduct by vols. discarded, being duplicates, or worn out and not replaced	...	...	...	3
				11760
Number of vols. added during the year	...	...	...	512
				12272

BRANCH LIBRARY, ASTON CROSS,

(*Lending Department opened December 14th, 1903.*)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	67
Biography, History, Travels, etc	...	...	...	215
Sociology	...	...	...	14
Arts, Sciences, and Natural History	...	...	..	107
Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	53
Fiction	...	...	...	1087
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	60
Magazines	...	...	...	105
* Music	...	...	..	77
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	216
Books of Reference, Encyclopædias, Dictionaries, Concordances, etc.	...	...	...	65
Total				2066
				1992
Number of volumes in the Library, March 31st, 1907	...	...	...	1992
Number added during the year	...	...	...	74
				2066
Total number of Volumes in Lending Libraries	...	..	...	14338

* *i.e.*, *Musical Compositions*: Works on the History and Theory of Music, Exercises, etc., are counted in the Arts and Sciences Class

LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

STATISTICS OF ISSUES.

Classification of Volumes Issued from the Lending Libraries during the year 1907-8.

		<i>Central.</i>		<i>Branch.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Religion and Philosophy	...	446	..	55	...	501
Biography, History, Travel, etc.	...	1807	...	435	...	2242
Sociology	... ..	171	...	4	...	175
Arts, Sciences and Natural History		2103	...	247	...	2350
Poetry and the Drama	...	496	...	89	...	585
Prose Fiction	...	58072	...	17627	...	75699
Miscellaneous Literature	...	1936	...	169	...	2105
Magazines	... ..	4537	...	811	...	5348
Juvenile Books	...	18647	...	4633	...	23280
Unbound Periodicals	...	182	...	—	...	182
Renewals	... ..	7056	...	1550	...	8606
Music	... ..	2358	...	298	...	2656
		<u>97811</u>		<u>25918</u>		<u>123729</u>
Daily Average	...	317.9		84.6		402

Monthly Totals, 1907-8.		<i>Central.</i>		<i>Branch.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
April	... ..	8846	...	2450	...	11296
May	... ..	8373	...	2141	...	10514
June	... ..	8083	...	2070	...	10153
July	... ..	7903	...	2090	...	9993
August	... ..	7411	...	2108	...	9519
September	... ..	7235	...	1836	...	9071
October	... ..	7758	...	2054	...	9812
November	... ..	8095	...	2366	...	10461
December	... ..	7568	...	2077	...	9645
January	... ..	8714	...	2242	...	10956
February	... ..	8826	...	2221	...	11047
March	... ..	8999	...	2263	...	11262
		<u>97811</u>		<u>25918</u>		<u>123729</u>

Grand Total of Issues, 1878-1908.

From the Lending and Reference Libraries.

Year Ending		Central Lending		Branch Lending		Reference
March, 1879	...	75,036	...	—	...	—
„ 1880	...	70,914	...	—	...	—
„ 1881	...	67,583	„	—	...	—
„ 1882	...	66,092	...	—	...	2,109
„ 1883	...	75,395	...	—	...	8,096
„ 1884	...	69,247	„	—	...	11,041
„ 1885	...	77,219	...	—	„	12,380
„ 1886	...	73,368	...	—	...	14,599
„ 1887	...	94,979	...	—	...	16,208
„ 1888	...	91,761	...	—	...	16,769
„ 1889	...	82,605	...	—	...	14,199
„ 1890	...	67,467	...	—	...	16,616
„ 1891	...	67,692	...	—	...	18,485
„ 1892	...	77,621	...	—	...	15,311
„ 1893	...	81,319	...	—	...	12,012
„ 1894	...	84,026	„	—	...	12,599
„ 1895	...	82,036	...	—	...	14,967
„ 1896	...	87,100	...	—	...	12,409
„ 1897	„	67,593	„	—	...	10,401
„ 1898	...	62,874	„	—	„	11,287
„ 1899	...	63,682	...	—	...	10,959
„ 1900	...	72,724	...	...	...	10,698
„ 1901	...	80,150	...	—	...	14,309
„ 1902	...	82,032	...	—	...	14,114
„ 1903	...	90,051	...	—	...	15,849
„ 1904	...	87,545	...	8,291	...	17,264
„ 1905	...	89,904	...	31,370	...	17,604
„ 1906	...	97,790	...	27,661	„	17,172
„ 1907	...	96,877	...	26,449	...	17,440
„ 1908	...	97,811	...	25,918	...	18,230
		<u>2,380,493</u>		<u>119,689</u>		<u>373,127</u>

Grand Total of Issues in all Departments since the
opening of the Libraries

2,873,309

Central Reading Rooms.

(Opened January 4th, 1882.)

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those Marked thus are * presented by the Publishers.*

Daily.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily News
„ Gazette-Express (3)	„ Daily Mail
„ Daily Mail (3)	„ Daily Telegraph
„ Daily Post (4)	„ Morning Leader
London Daily Chronicle	„ Standard
„ Daily Graphic	„ Times

Weekly.

Aston News	Guardian
Aston Villa (Football) News	Harper's Weekly
Athenæum	* Hereford Times
Baptist	Illustrated London News
* Belfast Weekly News	Inquirer
* Birmingham Owl	* Journal of the Society of Arts
„ Pictorial and Dart	Labour Leader
„ Weekly Mercury	Labour News
„ Weekly Post	* Lincoln and Stamford Mercury
Black and White	Liverpool Weekly Post
* Board of Trade Journal	* Local Government Chronicle
British Congregationalist	London Opinion
British Weekly	M.A.P.
Building News	Methodist Recorder
Bystander	* Midland Counties Herald
* Cambrian News	* Motor Traction
* Canada	Nation
* Canadian Life and Resources.	Nature
Christian World	Notes and Queries
Church Family Newspaper	* Patents : Illustrated Official Journal
* Civil Service Aspirant	Pitman's (Phonetic) Journal
* Civil Service Weekly	Public Opinion
Clarion	Punch
Contract Journal	Queen
* Co-operative News	Saturday Review
Country-Side	School Government Chronicle
Daily Mail (Weekly Ed n for Blind)	Scientific American
* Drapers' Record	Scotsman
Dublin Freeman's Journal	Sketch
Electrical Review	Spectator
Electrician	Sphere
Engineer	T.P.'s Weekly
Engineering	Tablet
English Mechanic	Truth
Exchange and Mart	* University Correspondent
Field	* Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser
Garden	* Western Weekly News
Gardening	Westminster Gazette (Sat. edition)
Gentlewoman	* Worcester Journal (Berrow's)
* Gloucestershire Chronicle	Work
Graphic	Yorkshire Post

FORTNIGHTLY.

*Certificate Examiner
India Rubber Trades Journal

*University Correspondent

MONTHLY.

*Animals' Friend
Architectural Review
*Arms and Explosives
Art Journal
*Astonia
Bibliophile, The
*B'ham King Edw. School Chronicle
Blackwood's Magazine
Bookman
Burlington Magazine
Captain, The
Cassell's Magazine
Century Magazine
Chambers's Journal
Contemporary Review
Cornhill Magazine
*Educational Times
English Illustrated Magazine
*Forester's Miscellany
Fortnightly Review
Harper's Monthly Magazine
*Humanitarian
Idler
*Insurance Agent and Review
*Journal of Incorp. Soc. of Musicians
Knowledge
*Labour Gazette

Library Association Record
Library World
Literary World
London Magazine, The
*Musical Herald
Musical Times
*New Church Magazine
Nineteenth Century and After
North American Review
*Our Own Magazine (Y.W.C.A.)
Pall Mall Magazine
Pearson's Magazine
Photographic Monthly
*Plumber and Decorator
Quiver
*Reg. Gen.'s List of Deceased Seamen
Review of Reviews
*State Correspondent
Strand Magazine
Sunday at Home
*Vaccination Inquirer
*Vegetarian Messenger
Wide World Magazine
Windsor Magazine
*Woodworker and Art Metal Worker
Woman at Home
*Zoophilist

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Railway Guide
*Everybody's Time Table
*Great Eastern Railway
*Great Western Railway
*Hammond's Railway Guide

*London & North-Western Railway
*London & South-Western Railway
*Midland Railway
*North-Eastern Railway
*White & Pike's Railway Guide

QUARTERLY, &c.

Birmingham Magazine
*Emigrant's Information Circulars

*St. George : Journal of the Birmingham Ruskin Society

ANNUAL.

Academy Pictures (Cassell)
*The ABC Press Directory
*Aston Manor Council Proceedings
Birmingham Red Book
*Birmingham University Calendar
B'ham Soc. of Artists' Catalogue
*Daily Mail Year Book
Directories (Birmingham, London,
Liverpool, Manchester, etc.)
*Durham University Calendar
Financial Reform Almanack
Hazzell's Annual
Incorporated Society of Musicians'
Year Book
The Insurance Register
*Register of Institute of Chartered
Accountants

Library Association Year Book
Literary Year Book
Low's English Catalogue ; Annual
Supplement
Municipal Year Book
*National Union of Teachers Year
Book
*Practical Advertising
*Smithsonian Instit'n Annual Report
*Stubbs' Directory
Studio Extra Numbers
Studio Year Book of Decorative Art
*Transactions of the Archæological
Society, Midland Institute
Whitaker's Almanack
The Year's Art

BRANCH READING ROOM, ASTON CROSS.

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those Marked thus * are presented by the Publishers.*

DAILY.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily News
„ Gazette-Express (2)	„ Daily Mail
„ Daily Mail (2)	„ Daily Telegraph
„ Daily Post (4)	„ Standard
London Daily Chronicle	

WEEKLY.

*Aston News	Harper's Weekly (second week)
Athenæum (second week)	Illustrated London News
*Birmingham Owl	Labour Leader
„ Weekly Mercury	Labour News
„ Weekly Post	London Opinion
Bystander (second week)	M.A.P.
Cassell's Saturday Journal	*Midland Counties Herald
Clarion, The	*Pitman's (Phonetic) Journal
Country-Side	Public Opinion
Electrician (second week)	Punch
Electrical Review (second week)	Queen (second week)
Engineer	Saturday Review (second week)
Engineering (second week)	Scientific American (second week)
English Mechanic	Sketch (second week)
Field (second week)	Spectator (second week)
Garden	T.P.'s Weekly
Gardening	Truth (second week)
Gentlewoman (second week)	Westminster Gazette (Sat. Edition)
Graphic	Work

MONTHLY.

*Animals' Guardian	Literary World
Band of Hope Review (2)	London Magazine, The
British Workman	Pall Mall Magazine
Captain, The	Pearson's Magazine
Cassell's Magazine	Strand Magazine
Chambers's Journal	Sunday at Home
Cottager and Artisan	Windsor Magazine
English Illustrated Magazine	Woman at Home
*Labour Gazette	*Zoophilist

RAILWAY TIME-TABLES.

Bradshaw's Railway Guide	*London & South Western Railway
*Great Eastern Railway	*Midland Railway
*Great Western Railway	*North Eastern Railway
*London & North Western Railway	*White and Pike's Railway Guide

General Summary of the Work of the Library

In all its departments during the Year ending March 31st, 1908.

Total Number of Volumes in, and of Issues from, the Libraries :—

	No. of Volumes.	Issues during 1906-7.
Reference Library ...	10602	18,230
Central Lending Library ...	12245	97,811
Branch Library, Aston Cross	2066	25,918
	<hr/> 24,913	<hr/> 141,959

Estimated Total Attendance at the Fourteen Free Lectures	..	5,600
„ „ „ Seven Branch Library Lectures	...	900
Number of Volumes added to the Reference Library	... ..	353
„ „ added to the Central Lending Library	... ..	512
„ „ added to the Branch Library	... ..	74
„ Notifications paid for	... .. Central	154
„ „ „ „ „	... .. Branch	26
„ Pence paid as Fines for Detention of Books	Central	12,869
„ „ „ „ „	Branch	4,056
„ Lost or Worn-out Volumes Replaced	... .. Central	119
„ „ „ „ „	... .. Branch	10
„ Books re-bound, bound from paper covers, or repaired by binder	... .. Central	571
„ „ „ „ „	... .. Branch	118
„ Volumes of Periodicals bound (Reference and Lending)		126
Daily Average Issue, Reference	... ..	59
„ „ Central Lending	... ..	317
„ „ Branch Lending	... ..	84
Number of Borrowers' Tickets issued during the year	Central	1,367*
„ „ „ „ „	Branch	404*
Present Total of Borrowers using the Central Library	about	3,000
„ „ „ Branch „	about	900

* Does not include the Second Tickets issued for Music.

FREE LECTURES.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL COURSE OF FREE LECTURES, delivered under the auspices of the FREE LIBRARIES COMMITTEE, consisted of fifteen Lectures. They were as follows :—

1907.

- Oct. 1st. EDWARD J. SHAW, ESQ.
"Sir Henry Irving: his Life and Art."
- Oct. 15th HENRY CROWTHER, ESQ., F.R.M.S.
"Yorkshire: its Folk-lore, Customs, and Broad Acres." (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Oct. 29th. F. BARRACLOUGH, ESQ. (the late)
"Balloons and Ballooning." (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Nov. 5th. A. H. DUNNING, ESQ., F.R.G.S., F.R.P.S.
"A Year and a half among Savages (New Guinea)" (with Limelight Illustrations and Phonographic Records).
- Nov. 19th. J. L. ROBINSON, ESQ.,
"With a Camera in the Alps." (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Dec. 3rd. THE REV. R. R. RODGERS.
"Among the Arabs at Carthage and Tunis" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Dec. 17th. FRANK FINN, ESQ., B.A., F.Z.S.
"Nature's Practical Jokes." (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Dec. 31st. WILLIAM IZON, ESQ.
"The Beautiful Vale of Llangollen." (with Limelight Illustrations).

1908.

- Jan. 7th. GEO. THOMPSON, ESQ.
"Austrian Lakeland." (with Limelight Illustrations).
- Jan. 21st. JOHN J. WARD, ESQ.
"Insect Life through Microscope and Camera." (with Limelight Illustrations.)
- Feb. 4th. FREDK. LAMBERT, ESQ., F.R.G.S.
"An Idler on a Tramp Steamer in Adriatic and Sicilian Waters." (with Limelight Illustrations.)
- Feb. 18th. THE REV. GRANVILLE SHARP, M.A.
"College Life at Oxford." (with Limelight Illustrations.)
- Mar. 3rd. THE REV. CANON SUTTON, M.A.
Charles Dickens's "Martin Chuzzlewit."
- Mar. 17th. CHARLES SHOWELL, ESQ.
"A Caravan Tour to Plinlimmon and the Valley of the Severn." (with Limelight Illustrations.)
- Mar. 31st. W. J. CROSS, ESQ.
"The Life and Work of Sir Arthur Sullivan." (with Musical Illustrations by Miss Clare Gilbert, Mme. Nellie Pritchard, Mr. Fred Thomas and Mr. Arnold Griffin.)

Lectures in the Branch Reading Room, **Aston Cross.**

Seven Monthly Talks, or One Hour Lectures, were delivered by the Chief Librarian in the Branch Reading Room, commencing each evening at nine and concluding at ten o'clock. They were as follows:—

1907.

September 30th.

“Makers of Birmingham: some Famous Men of the Past.”
(With Limelight Illustrations.)

November 4th.

“Famous Modern Pictures and their Painters.”—
(With Limelight Illustrations taken from Pictures and Engravings.)

December 2nd.

“Venice and its Story.”—(With Limelight Illustrations.)

1908.

January 6th.

“The Ballads and Stories of Rudyard Kipling.”

February 3rd.

“John Bunyan and his ‘Pilgrim’s Progress.’”—(With Limelight Illustrations from drawings by H. Copping.)

March 2nd.

“The Pilgrim and the Shrine: Visits to Famous Places of Historic and Literary Interest.”—(With Limelight Illustrations.)

April 6th.

“Historic Warwickshire: its scenery, legendary lore, and notable events.”—(With Limelight Illustrations.)

List of Donations to the Library, DURING THE YEAR.

Anti-Vivisection Society—

Report of the Royal Commission of Vivisection.
The Zoophilist, monthly, as published.
The Animals' Friend, monthly, as published.

Aston Manor, Corporation of—

Council Minutes, 1906-7.

Aston Manor Institutions, Reports from—

Borough Treasurer Fire Brigade Education Committee Medical Officer of Health		Nursing Association Relief Association Sanitary Inspector Technical School
---	--	---

Birmingham Free Libraries (*per A. Capel Shaw, Esq.*)—

Manuscripte des Mittelalters (Katalog, K. W. Hiersemann).

Birmingham and Midland Institute Archæological Society (*per A. Hayes, Esq.*)

Transactions of the Archæological Society, 1906.

Birmingham University—

Calendar of the University, 1907-8.

Board of Trade—

The Board of Trade Journal, as published.
Labour Gazette, as published, 2 copies.

Briscoe, J. P. Esq.—

Chronicles of a Country Cricket Club, by E. Bayly and W. Briscoe.

British Museum, The Trustees of—

Medallic Illustrations of British History (Plates XLI—LXX).
Catalogue of Thomason Tracts (Civil War and Commonwealth) 2 vols.
Catalogue of Additions, MSS. in the British Museum, 1900-1905.
Catalogue of Drawings by British Artists, vol. 4.
Guide to the Mediæval Room.

British Museum (Natural History Department)—

Catalogue of Madreporarian Corals, vol. 6.
Synonymic Catalogue of Orthoptera, vol. 2.
Catalogue of Lepidoptera Phalænæ (with plates) vol. 6.
British Blood-sucking Flies.

History of the Collections contained in the Natural History Departments,
vol. 2.

Books and Portraits of the History of Plant Classification.

Guide to the Collection of Old Natural History Books.

Memorials of Carl Linnæus.

Guide to Great Game Animals.

British Seed-plants and Ferns.

Guide to Fossil Invertebrate Animals.

Cecil, The Hon. Mrs. Evelyn (the author)—

London Parks and Gardens.

Cockroft, J., Esq. (Chief Librarian, Hereford)—

Old View of Aston Hall, circa 1775.

Cooke, W. E., Esq.—

The Sphere (the set from vol. 1 to 27, unbound).

Strand Magazines (21 vols. unbound).

Co-operative Union, Ltd.—

Report of the Preston Congress.

Dent, Robert K.—

Calamy's Nonconformists' Memorial, 3 vols.

Durham, University of—

Calendar of the University, 1908.

Emigrants' Information Office—

Quarterly Circulars of Information for Emigrants.

Gladstone, The Rt. Hon. W. E., Trustees of the Late—

The Odes of Horace, *trans.* by W. E. Gladstone.

The Impregnable Rock of Holy Scripture, by W. E. Gladstone.

The Psalter, with Concordance, by W. E. Gladstone.

Health Resort Handbooks—

(Various) from the respective Town Clerks and Advertising Boards.

Libraries, Public ; Reports, Catalogues, &c., from—

Aberdeen, Ashton-under-Lyne, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Battersea, Bebbington, Belfast, Birmingham, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Bootle, Bradford, Brierley Hill, Brighton, Bristol, Bromley, Bury, Buxton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Chelsea, Chorley, Cork, Croydon, Derby, Dudley, Dukinfield, Dundee, Ealing, Eastbourne, Finsbury, Folkestone, Fulham, Glasgow (Baillie's), Glasgow (Stirling's), Gloucester, Hammersmith, Handsworth, Hanley, Hastings, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Kensal Rise, Kettering, Kidderminster, Kimberley, S.A., Leeds, Leek (Nicholson Institute), Leicester, Leyton, Lincoln, Liverpool, London (Bishopgate Foundation), London (Cripplegate Foundation), Longton, Loughborough, Malvern, Montrose, New York, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Newcastle-under-

Lyme, Nottingham, Oldbury, Osaka, Paisley, Penarth, Perth, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Preston, Richmond, Rochdale, St. Helen's, Salford, Shore-ditch, Smethwick, Stockport, Stoke Newington, Stourbridge, Taunton, Tottenham, Tynemouth, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Warrington, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, West Bromwich, Westminster, Weston-super-Mare, Wigan, Willesden (Kilburn), Willesden (Harlesden). Willesden Green, Wimbledon, Wolverhampton, Worcester, Workington, Great Yarmouth, York.

London, Corporation of the City of—

Calendar of Letter-Books (A.D. 1375-1399).

Mather & Crowther, Ltd.—

Practical Advertising, 1907-8.

“Message, The” Committee—

The Message, a novel, by A. J. Dawson.

Murray, J., Esq.—

British Trade Year Book, 1906.

Patent Office—

Patents Illustrated Official Journal, weekly, as published.

Abridgments of Patents, in Classes, as published.

Patent Office Library Series, as published.

Purdon. The Rev. D. W.—

Exposition of the Epistle to the Romans, by J. Brown, D.D.

Turkish Bonds, by May Kendall.

Printers' Pie, 1905 and 1907.

Registrar General, The—

Monthly List of Deceased Seamen, as published.

Rylands Library, Manchester—

Several Lists.

Smithsonian Institution—

Smithsonian Institution Report, 1906

Society of Artists, The—

Journal of the Society, weekly, as published.

Thomas, J. M., Esq.—

Graphic Illustrations of Warwickshire, 2nd edition.

Oil Painting of Aston Hall, by J. J. Hughes.

Tomey, County Councillor—

Narrative of the Murphy Riots, Birmingham, 1866.

University Tutorial Press—

London University Guide, 1908.

Watkins Meter Co., The—

Watkins' Photographic Manual.

Wise, T. J., Esq. (*per W. Downing, Esq.*)—

Shelley's Letters to Hogg, vol. 1.

Vegetarian Society, The—

Vegetarian Messenger, monthly, as published.

Also the Newspapers and Periodicals (from their respective publishers) marked thus * in the lists on pages 11-13.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Year ending March 31st, 1908.

Income.			Expenditure.		
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Apr. 1st, 1907—			March 31st, 1908—		
To Balance in Hand	...	293 17 4	By Salaries	385	1 0
Mar. 31st, 1908—			" Books	135	14 8
To Rate at 1d. in the £	...	1025 0 0	" Newspapers and Periodicals	88	5 10
" Fines	53	12 5	" Binding	92	8 7
" Catalogues, &c.	5	18 9	" Printing	20	12 4
" Re-Sales & Damages...	2	8 8	" Light, Water, Fuel, and Cleaning	83	0 9
" Fines (Branch)...	16	18 0	" Repairs and Sundries	22	5 2
" Catalogues, &c., "	1	7 5	Total, Central Library	827	8 4
" Re-Sales & Damages, "	15	4	" Lecture Expenses, (Central and Branch)	65	11 8
" Advertisements in Lecture Programme	2	15 6	BRANCH LIBRARY.		
	83	16 1	" Salaries	78	0 0
			" Books	3	11 3
			" News. & Periodicals	27	13 1
			" Binding	12	17 6
			" Light, Water, Fuel and Cleaning	52	10 9
			" Repairs and Sundries	13	16 0
			Total, Branch Library	188	8 7
			" Balance in hand	321	4 10
				£1402	13 5

Amount of Bequest	...	£1000	0	0
Bank Interest and Interest on Mortgage to Jan. 15th, 1908	...	78	13	5
		£1078	13	5

The William Ansell Bequest.



Borough of Aston Manor.

THIRTY-FIRST

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Free Libraries Committee,

APRIL 1st, 1908 to MARCH 31st, 1909.

Aston Manor :

Printed for the Free Libraries Committee,

Geo. Roobottom & Sons, Globe Works, High Street.

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Borough of Aston Manor.

Free Libraries Committee

1907-8

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN ALFRED TAYLOR, J P.)
ALD. H. GUEST, J.P., *Chairman*
Councillor J. E. BERRY
Councillor R. HOLLICK, C.C.
Councillor H. McCALÉ
Councillor E. SMITH
Mr. SIDNEY FISHER, J.P.
DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P., *Chairman of Book Sub-Committee*
REV. G. E. PRICE
Rev. Canon E. DALE ROBERTS, M.A.
Mr. WILLIAM UNITE

1908-9

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR,
(ALDERMAN ALFRED TAYLOR, J.P.)
ALD. H. GUEST, J.P., *Chairman*
Councillor R. HOLLICK, C.C.
Councillor A. W. LOWE
Councillor H. McCALÉ
Councillor E. SMITH
Mr. SIDNEY FISHER, J.P.
DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P., *Chairman of Book Sub-Committee*
REV. G. E. PRICE
Rev. Canon E. DALE ROBERTS, M.A.
Mr. WILLIAM UNITE

Hon. Sec.—MR. JOSEPH ANSELL, J.P., *Town Clerk*
Assist. Hon. Sec.—MR. WILLIAM THOMPSON, *Dep. Town Clerk*
Chief Librarian—MR. ROBERT K. DENT
Assistant Librarian—MR. T. J. NEWELL
Attendant and Caretaker at Branch Library—
MR. T. LOVEROCK

Past Chairmen of the Free Libraries Committee.

1877-78 MR. EDWARD EVANS
1878-83 DR. JOHN HARVEY
1883-87 REV. FREDERICK SMITH, M.A.
1887-90 DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.
1890-94 MR. JAMES OSBORNE
1895-96 COUNCILLOR W. UNITE
1896-97 COUNCILLOR W. E. COOKE
1897-1900 COUNCILLOR H. GUEST
1900-03 COUNCILLOR S. FISHER
1903-04 DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.

REPORT.

The Free Libraries Committee have pleasure in presenting the Thirty-first Annual Report of the work of the Library.

The year just ended has been characterised by great dearth of employment, a condition which brings with it increased demands upon the Libraries. The year's issues from the Central Lending Library have exceeded those of any year since its establishment, amounting to 109,096 volumes, as against 97,811 last year, and these figures may be compared with interest with the returns of one of the years of good trade—1898—when the issues amounted only to 62,874. The Reference Library has also been more largely used than in any former year, the issues therefrom being over 20,000. It is pleasing to report that the increase in issues has been manifested in the non-fictional classes in a very satisfactory degree. Including the issue from the Branch Library of over 24,000, the general total for the year exceeds 153,000. It is also of interest to note that the third million has been reached in the grand total, the issues for the thirty-one years being 3,026,627.

An improvement has been effected in the Central Lending Library, by withdrawing all classes except Fiction and Juvenile Books from the Indicator, thus enabling the service counter to be improved, by doing away with the narrow pigeon-holes through which books were issued, and providing ample space for four assistants to attend at the counter together when necessary. A portion of the old indicator-frame has been converted into a show case where recent additions, or special collections, can be exhibited.

The charging system adopted for non-fictional classes is that which was introduced by the Chief Librarian at the Branch Library in 1903. The change involved the handling of about 9000 volumes twice over, and the writing of charging envelopes for these volumes; this was accomplished without interfering with the issue of books for a single hour.

A catalogue of Books for Boys and Girls, on the lines of that in use at the Central, has been issued for the Branch Library, and its sale has had a good influence in increasing the number of young people using that Library. The preparation of this Catalogue afforded an opportunity of adding considerably to the Juvenile Books in the Library.

During the year the Education Committee has made a commencement towards the formation of childrens' libraries in the Council Schools in the Borough, and in this work the Chief Librarian has co-operated with the Secretary to the Education Committee. It is hoped that by means of these Libraries the children in the schools will be encouraged in a taste for reading, and thus, in years to come, will swell the number of those by whom the Public Libraries of the Borough are so highly appreciated.

The Free Lectures continue to maintain their popularity, the audiences being fully up to the average, while the programme of Lectures was of the usual high standard of excellence. In addition to the fourteen Lectures delivered at the Albert Hall, seven One Hour Lectures have been delivered in the Branch Reading Room (from nine to ten o'clock in the evening). by the Chief Librarian, most of them being illustrated by means of the lantern. These have also been well attended. The Committee here tender their thanks to the Lecturers for the valuable services rendered to the public through this institution. Lists of the Lectures will be found on pages 15 and 16 of this report.

In the ensuing Records of Issues, Financial Statement, and other statistics, the year's work is set out in detail.

HENRY GUEST, J.F. *Chairman.*

ROBERT K. DENT, *Chief Librarian.*

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

(Opened January 4th, 1882, with 2,300 volumes.)

Number of Volumes in the Reference Department, March 31st, 1909.

					<i>Plans, etc. Vols. Pamphlets. Total</i>		
General Knowledge (Encyclopædias, Periodicals, etc.)					—	1057	11 1068
Philosophy	...	...	...	—	126	1	127
Religion	...	...	...	—	593	28	621
Sociology	...	...	...	—	252	105	357
Philology	...	...	...	—	126	17	143
Natural Science	...	...	...	—	793	32	825
Useful Arts (including Patent Abridgements)	...	...	...	—	1819	21	1840
Fine Arts	...	...	...	—	986	24	1010
Literature—							
(a) General Literature	...	...	...	—	599	31	630
(b) Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	—	567	1	568
(c) Prose Fiction	...	...	...	—	190	—	190
History—							
(a) General History	...	...	...	—	1163	10	1173
(b) Geography, Travel, and Topography	...	...	...	—	733	34	767
(c) Biography	...	...	...	—	604	22	626
(d) Local Books (Birmingham and Aston)	...	...	...	54	373	445	872
Total					54	9981	782 10817
Contents of Reference Library.							
March 31st, 1908					54	9768	780 10602
Number of Vols. added during 1908-9					—	313	2 215
Total							10817

Classification of Volumes consulted in the Reference Department during the year ending March 31st, 1909.

General Knowledge	...	...	...	...	7174
Philosophy	...	...	...	...	282
Religion	...	...	...	...	1364
Sociology	...	...	...	...	528
Philology	...	...	...	...	1541
Natural Science	...	...	...	...	850
Useful Arts	...	...	...	...	1170
Fine Arts	...	...	...	...	1047
Literature—					
(a) General Literature	...	...	...	...	800
(b) Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	...	1018
(c) Prose Fiction	...	...	...	...	1004
History—					
(a) General History	...	...	...	...	1015
(b) Geography, Travel, and Topography	...	...	...	...	970
(c) Biography	...	...	...	...	873
(d) Local Books	...	...	...	...	370
Total					20,006
Number of days open					307
Daily Average					65

Principal Additions to the Library during the Year.

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Encyclopædia of Religion and Ethics, ed. by J. Hastings, vol. 1; Old Testament Illustrated, by J. J. Tissot, 2 vols.; Life of Our Lord, illustrated, by J. J. Tissot, 2 vols.; Science of Mythology, by Max Müller, 2 vols.; The Bible Beautiful, by E. M. Hurl; Metapsychical Phenomena, by J. Maxwell; The Gospels, translated from the Syriac Palimpsest, by A. S. Lewis.

The Voluntaryist Creed, by Auberon Herbert; Cyclopædia of Social Reform, by W. D. P. Bliss; Bibliography of Social Questions, by S.E. Keeble

Volcanic Studies, by Tempest Anderson; Science in Modern Life, by various writers, ed. by J. R. Ainsworth Davis, vol. 1.

Practical Coal Mining, by various writers, ed. by W. S. Boulton, 6 vols.; The Modern Carpenter, Joiner and Cabinet Maker, by various writers, ed. by G. Sutcliffe, 8 vols.

Mediaeval Architecture, by Sir Gilbert Scott, 2 vols.; Towers and Spires, by E. T. Green; Screens and Galleries in English Churches, by F. Bond; Domestic Architecture of the Middle Ages, by T. Hudson Turner; Sacred Art, by A. C. Temple; Jewellery, by H. Clifford Smith; English Book Illustration, by R. E. D. Sketchley; Humorists of the Pencil, by J. A. Hammerton; Critical Studies and Fragments, by S. A. Strong; An Artist's Reminiscences, by Walter Crane; The Germ [the magazine of the Pre-raphaelite Movement] *reprint*, with introduction by W. M. Rossetti; The Decoration of Leather, by G. de Récy and M. Nathan.

The Cambridge History of English Literature, vols. 2 and 3; The Shakespeare Apocrypha, ed. by C. F. F. Brooke; Popular Fallacies, by A. S. Ackermann; The Works of Oliver Wendell Holmes (Riverside edition) 7 vols.; Specimens of Elizabethan Dramatists, by Charles Lamb, *second edition*; The Laureates of England, by Kenyon West; A Book of Christmas Verse, ed. by H. C. Beeching; The Poems of Adam Lindsay Gordon; The Browning Cyclopædia, by E. Berdoe; The Real Dickens' Land, by H. S. and C. W. Ward; Miscellaneous Papers, Plays and Poems of Charles Dickens; and other Dickensana; (the Dickens Collection now comprises over 120 volumes, including many first editions of the works).

Folk-Memory, by W. Johnson; The Charm of the English Village, by P. H. Ditchfield; History of Baddeley Clinton, by H. Norris; A Book about Yorkshire, by J. S. Fletcher; Historic Worcestershire, by W. Salt Brasington; Historic Studies of Staffordshire, by J. L. and K. Cherry; Handsworth, Old and New, by F. W. Hackwood; Key to Ancient Parish Registers, by A. M. Burke; Feudal England, by J. H. Round; The Flight of the King (Charles II), by Allan Fea; History of the Boer War, by F. H. E. Cunliffe, 2 vols.; The Popish Plot (*temp.* Charles II) by J. Pollock; Voyages of Captain W. Dampier, ed. by J. Masfield, 2 vols.; From the Niger to the Nile, by Boyd Alexander, 2 vols.; Tibet and Nepal, by A. H. Savage Landor; Japan, by Mortimer Menpes; The Ainu and their Folk-lore, by J. Batchelor; Life of Lord Beaconsfield, by W. Meynell, 2 vols.; A Great "Punch" Editor: Shirley Brooks, by G. S. Layard; Life of O. W. Holmes, by J. T. Morse, junr., 2 vols.

CENTRAL LENDING DEPARTMENT

Lectures on Preaching, by Phillips Brooks; Christ and the Nation, by Canon Henson; Orthodoxy, by G. K. Chesterton; The Church in Modern England, by F. C. Kempson; Christianity and the Social Order, by R. J. Campbell; The Fact of Conversion, by G. Jackson; Sidelights on Religion,

by J. Brierley ; Gleanings in Buddha-fields, by Lafcadio Hearn ; Hypnotism and Spiritism, by G. Lapponi ; Occultism and Common Sense, by Beckles Wilson.

Letters of Queen Victoria, 3 vols. ; Life of Bishop Ken, by E. H. Plumtre 2 vols. ; Recollections of D. Christie Murray ; Pages from an Adventurous Life, by J. E. Muddock ; Memoirs of John T. Delane, by Dasent, 2 vols. ; Life of T. Watts-Dunton, by J. Douglas ; My Life, by A. R. Wallace ; Sir Richard Tangye, by S. J. Reid ; *Mémoires of Eight Parliaments*, by H. W. Lucy ; *Story of my Life*, by Ellen Terry ; *Letters of Dr. John Brown*.

Certain delightful English Towns, by W. D. Howells ; Bunyan's Country, by A. J. Forster ; Highways and Byways in Hampshire, by D.H.M. Read ; Across Widest Africa, by A. H. Savage Landor, 2 vols. ; An Eyewitness in Manchuria, by Lord Brooke ; Japan, by Lafcadio Hearn ; The Lure of the Labrador Wild *and* The Long Labrador Trail, by Dillon Wallace ; In the Land of Pearl and Gold, by A. Macdonald ; The World of the Great Forest, by P. B. Du Chaillu ; My African Journey, by Winston S. Churchill ; The Making of Modern Egypt, by Sir A. Colvin ; Russia in Revolution, by G. H. Perris.

Principles of Western Civilization, by B. Kidd ; The Municipal Manual, by A. E. Lauder ; Practical Housing, by J. S. Nettlefold ; Anticipations, by H. G. Wells ; Memories of Famous Trials, by E. Burnaby ; The Conquest of Bread, by Prince Kropotkin.

Great Buildings and how to enjoy them, 2 vols. ; History of Engraving, by Stanley Austin ; Microscopy, by E. J. Spitta ; Mosses and Liverworts, by T. H. Russell ; Trees in Nature, Myth, and Art, by E. Phythian ; Scientific Ideas of To-day, by C. R. Gibson ; Astronomy of To-day, by C. G. Dolmage ; Alcohol and the Human Body, by Horsley and Sturge ; Man and the Universe, by Sir O. Lodge ; Easy Mathematics, by Sir O. Lodge ; The Radioactive Substances, by W. Makower ; Wayside and Woodland Blossoms, by E. Step, 2 vols.

The Duke of Gandia, by A. C. Swinburne ; The Flower of the Mind (Poetical Anthology) ed. by A. Meynell ; Poems from "Punch," ed. by Sir F. C. Burnand ; Humorous Poetry (19th Century) ed. by A. H. Miles, etc.

218 Volumes of recent Fiction.

Great English Letter-writers, by W. J. Dawson, 2 vols. ; The Age of Shakespeare, by A. C. Swinburne ; Black-stick Papers, by Lady Ritchie ; Four Poets, by Stopford Brooke ; English Philology, by J. Earle ; French Novelists of To-day, by W. Stephens ; Miscellanies, by J. Morley, 4th series ; History of Freedom, and other Essays, by Lord Acton ; History of Spanish Literature by J. F. Kelly ; English Prose, by G. Saintsbury ; Transcripts and Studies *and* New Studies in Literature, by E. Dowden ; Elizabethan Literature, 19th Century Literature, *and* Corrected Impressions, by G. Saintsbury ; Critical Kit-kats, by E. Gosse ; A Primer of Wordsworth, by L. Magnus ; The Art of Thomas Hardy, by L. Johnson ; Critical Essays, by Bayard Taylor.

Music.—Chopin Album ; Schott's Organ Book ; Gems for the Organ, 3 vols. ; Vincent's Organ Voluntaries ; Imperial Song Folios, 8 vols. ; Scottish Students' Song Book ; The Concert Song Folio ; The Star Song Folio ; The Waltz Dream ; The Merry Widow ; Tom Jones ; Duchess of Dantzic ; White Chrysanthemum ; Talk of the Town ; Little Michus ; Mr. Poppie ; Elgar's Black Knight, Caractacus, and Light of Life ; Coleridge Taylor's Bon-Bon Suite, etc.

54 Volumes of recent Juvenile Literature.

38 Volumes of Current Periodicals.

BRANCH LENDING LIBRARY.

193 volumes of recent works in various classes.

LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

Number of Volumes, March 31st, 1909.

CENTRAL LIBRARY, WITTON ROAD,

(Opened February 4th, 1878, with 2700 volumes.)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	583
Biography, History, Topography, Voyages and Travels	...	...	...	1596
Sociology	...	...	...	133
Arts and Sciences and Natural History	...	...	...	932
Games, Sports and Recreations	...	...	...	41
Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	387
Prose Fiction	...	...	...	4425
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	1167
Magazines and Reviews	...	...	...	2081
* Music	...	...	...	407
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	981
Books for the Blind (Braille and Moon Type)	...	...	...	27
Total	...	...	...	12760
Total of Lending Department, March 31st, 1908	...	...	...	12272
Deduct by vols. discarded, being duplicates, or worn out and not replaced	...	...	...	20
Number of vols. added during the year	...	...	...	12252
				508
				12760

BRANCH LIBRARY, ASTON CROSS,

(Lending Department opened December 14th, 1903.)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	69
Biography, History, Travels, etc	...	...	...	220
Sociology	...	...	...	14
Arts, Sciences, and Natural History	...	...	...	115
Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	54
Fiction	...	...	...	1181
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	61
Magazines	...	...	...	109
* Music	...	...	...	78
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	293
Books of Reference, Encyclopædias, Dictionaries, Concordances, etc.	...	...	...	65
Total	...	...	...	2259
Number of volumes in the Library, March 31st, 1908	...	...	...	2066
Number added during the year	...	...	...	193
				2259
Total number of Volumes in Lending Libraries	...	...	...	15,019

* i.e., Musical Compositions: Works on the History and Theory of Music, Exercises, etc., are counted in the Arts and Sciences Class

LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

STATISTICS OF ISSUES.

Classification of Volumes Issued from the Lending
Libraries during the year 1908-9.

		<i>Central</i>		<i>Branch</i>		<i>Total</i>
Religion and Philosophy ...	...	704	...	27	...	731
Biography, History, Travel, etc. ...	...	2347	...	502	...	2849
Sociology ...	...	254	...	2	...	256
Arts, Sciences and Natural History ...	...	2649	...	218	...	2867
Poetry and the Drama ...	..	595	..	93	...	688
Prose Fiction ...	...	66942	...	16788	..	83730
Miscellaneous Literature ...	...	1993	...	158	...	2151
Magazines ...	...	4866	...	634	...	5500
Juvenile Books ...	...	21851	...	3912	...	25763
Unbound Periodicals ...	...	226	...	—	...	226
Renewals ...	...	4006	...	1614	...	5620
Music ...	..	2663	...	268	...	2931
		<u>109,096</u>		<u>24,216</u>		<u>133,312</u>
Daily Average		355		79		434

MONTHLY TOTALS, 1908-9		<i>Central</i>		<i>Branch</i>		<i>Total.</i>
April ...	..	8671	...	2064	...	10735
May ...	...	8695	...	1996	...	10691
June ...	...	7717	...	1741	...	9458
July ...	...	7947	...	1728	..	9675
August ...	...	7685	...	1735	...	9420
September ...	...	8797	...	1876	...	10673
October ...	...	10076	...	2041	...	12117
November ...	...	9729	...	2053	..	11782
December ...	...	9181	...	2090	...	11271
January ...	...	10268	...	2267	...	12535
February ...	...	9612	...	2114	...	11726
March ...	...	10718	...	2511	...	13229
		<u>109,096</u>		<u>24,216</u>		<u>133,312</u>

Grand Total of Issues, 1878-1909.

From the Lending and Reference Libraries.

Year Ending	Central Lending	Branch Lending	Reference
March, 1879	75,036	—	—
„ 1880	70,914	—	—
„ 1881	67,583	—	—
„ 1882	66,092	—	2,109
„ 1883	75,395	—	8,096
„ 1884	69,247	—	11,041
„ 1885	77,219	—	12,380
„ 1886	73,368	—	14,599
„ 1887	94,979	—	16,208
„ 1888	91,761	—	16,769
„ 1889	82,605	—	14,199
„ 1890	67,467	—	16,616
„ 1891	67,692	—	18,485
„ 1892	77,621	—	15,311
„ 1893	81,319	—	12,012
„ 1894	84,026	—	12,599
„ 1895	82,036	—	14,967
„ 1896	87,100	—	12,409
„ 1897	67,593	—	10,401
„ 1898	62,874	—	11,287
„ 1899	63,682	—	10,959
„ 1900	72,724	—	10,698
„ 1901	80,150	—	14,309
„ 1902	82,032	—	14,114
„ 1903	90,051	—	15,849
„ 1904	87,545	8,291	17,264
„ 1905	89,904	31,370	17,604
„ 1906	97,790	27,661	17,172
„ 1907	96,877	26,449	17,440
„ 1908	97,811	25,918	18,230
„ 1909	109,096	24,216	20,006
	<u>2,489,589</u>	<u>143,905</u>	<u>393,133</u>

Grand Total of Issues in all Departments since the opening of the Libraries

3,026,627

Central Reading Rooms.

(Opened January 4th, 1882.)

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those Marked thus are * presented by the Publishers.*

Daily.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily News
„ Gazette-Express (3)	„ Daily Mail
„ Daily Mail (3)	„ Daily Telegraph
„ Daily Post (4)	„ Morning Leader
London Daily Chronicle	„ Standard
„ Daily Graphic	„ Times

Weekly.

Academy	Graphic
Amateur Photographer	Guardian
Army and Navy Gazette	Harper's Weekly
Aston News	* Hereford Times
Aston Villa (Football) News	Illustrated London News
Athenæum	Inquirer
Baptist	* Journal of the Society of Arts
Belfast Weekly News	Labour Leader
* Birmingham Owl	Labour News
* „ Pictorial and Dart	* Lincoln and Stamford Mercury
„ Weekly Mercury	Liverpool Weekly Post
„ Weekly Post	* Local Government Chronicle
Black and White	London Opinion
* Board of Trade Journal	M.A.P.
British Congregationalist	Methodist Recorder
British Weekly	* Midland Counties Herald
Building News	* Motor Traction
Bystander	* Municipal Journal
Cambrian News	Nation
* Canada	Nature
Christian World	Notes and Queries
Church Family Newspaper	* Patents: Illustrated Official Journal
* Civil Service Aspirant	Pitman's (Phonetic) Journal
* Civil Service Candidate	Public Opinion
* Civil Service Weekly	Punch
Clarion	Queen
Contract Journal	Saturday Review
* Contractors' Record	School Government Chronicle
* Co-operative News	Scientific American
Country-Side	Scotsman
Daily Mail (Weekly Ed'n for Blind)	Sketch
* Drapers' Record	Spectator
Dublin Freeman's Journal	Sphere
Electrical Review	Sunday School Chronicle
Electrician	T.P.'s Weekly
Engineer	Tablet
Engineering	Truth
* Engineering Markets	* University Correspondent
English Mechanic	* Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser
Exchange and Mart	* Western Weekly News
Field	Westminster Gazette (Sat. edition)
Garden	* Worcester Journal (Berrow's)
Gardening	Work
Gentlewoman	Yorkshire Post
* Gloucestershire Chronicle	

FORTNIGHTLY.

*Certificate Examiner
India Rubber Trades Journal

*University Correspondent

MONTHLY.

*Animals' Friend
*Arbitrator
Architectural Review
*Arms and Explosives
Art Journal
Bibliophile, The
*B'ham King Edw. School Chronicle
Blackwood's Magazine
Bookman
Burlington Magazine
Captain, The
Cassell's Magazine
Century Magazine
Chambers's Journal
Contemporary Review
Cornhill Magazine
*Educational Times
English Illustrated Magazine
*Forester's Miscellany
Fortnightly Review
Harper's Monthly Magazine
*Humanitarian
Idler
*Insurance Agent and Review
*Journal of Incorp. Soc. of Musicians
Knowledge
*Labour Gazette
Library Association Record

Library World
Literary World
London Magazine, The
*Musical Herald
Musical Times
Nash's Magazine
*New Church Magazine
New Magazine
Nineteenth Century and After
North American Review
*Our Own Magazine (Y.W.C.A.)
Pall Mall Magazine
Pearson's Magazine
Photographic Monthly
*Plumber and Decorator
Quiver
*Reg. Gen.'s List of Deceased Seamen
Review of Reviews
*State Correspondent
Strand Magazine
Sunday at Home
*Vaccination Inquirer
*Vegetarian Messenger
Wide World Magazine
Windsor Magazine
*Woodworker and Art Metal Worker
Woman at Home
*Zoophilist

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Railway Guide
*Great Eastern Railway
*Great Western Railway
*Hammond's Railway Guide

*London & North-Western Railway
*London & South-Western Railway
*Midland Railway
*North-Eastern Railway
*White & Pike's Railway Guide

QUARTERLY, &c.

*Emigrants' Information Circulars

St. George : Journal of the Birmingham Ruskin Society

ANNUAL.

Academy Pictures (Cassell)
*The ABC Press Directory
*Aston Manor Council Proceedings
Birmingham Red Book
*Birmingham University Calendar
B'ham Soc. of Artists' Catalogue
*Co-operative Congress Reports
*Daily Mail Year Book
Directories (Birmingham, London, Liverpool, Manchester, etc.)
*Durham University Calendar
Financial Reform Almanack
Hazell's Annual
*Incorporated Society of Musicians' Year Book
*The Insurance Register
*Register of Institute of Chartered Accountants

Library Association Year Book
Literary Year Book
Low's English Catalogue ; Annual Supplement
Municipal Year Book
*National Union of Teachers Year Book
*Smithsonian Institution Annual Report
*Stubbs' Directory
Studio Extra Numbers
Studio Year Book of Decorative Art
*Thom's Directory of Manufacturers in Ireland
*Transactions of the Archæological Society, Midland Institute
Whitaker's Almanack
The Year's Art

BRANCH READING ROOM, ASTON CROSS.

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those Marked thus * are presented by the Publishers.*

DAILY.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily News
„ Gazette-Express (2)	„ Daily Mail
„ Daily Mail (2)	„ Daily Telegraph
„ Daily Post (4)	„ Standard
London Daily Chronicle	

WEEKLY.

*Aston News	Harper's Weekly (second week)
Athenæum (second week)	Illustrated London News
*Birmingham Owl	Labour Leader
„ Weekly Mercury	Labour News
„ Weekly Post	London Opinion
Bystander (second week)	M.A.P.
Cassell's Saturday Journal	*Midland Counties Herald
Clarion, The	*Pitman's (Phonetic) Journal
Country-Side	Public Opinion
Electrician (second week)	Punch
Electrical Review (second week)	Queen (second week)
Engineer	Saturday Review (second week)
Engineering (second week)	Scientific American (second week)
English Mechanic	Sketch (second week)
Field (second week)	Spectator (second week)
Garden	T.P.'s Weekly
Gardening	Truth (second week)
Gentlewoman (second week)	Westminster Gazette (Sat. Edition)
Graphic	Work

MONTHLY.

*Animals' Guardian	Literary World
Band of Hope Review (2)	London Magazine, The
British Workman	Pall Mall Magazine
Captain, The	Pearson's Magazine
Cassell's Magazine	Strand Magazine
Chambers's Journal	Sunday at Home
Cottager and Artisan	Wide World Magazine
English Illustrated Magazine	Windsor Magazine
*Labour Gazette	Woman at Home
	*Zoophilist

RAILWAY TIME=TABLES.

Bradshaw's Railway Guide	*London & South Western Railway
*Great Eastern Railway	*Midland Railway
*Great Western Railway	*North Eastern Railway
*London & North Western Railway	*White and Pike's Railway Guide

FREE LECTURES

THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL COURSE OF FREE LECTURES, delivered under the auspices of the FREE LIBRARIES COMMITTEE, consisted of fourteen Lectures. They were as follows :—

1908

- Oct. 6th CHARLES W. BUDDEN, Esq., M.D.
 "Pictures in Music," (with Limelight Illustrations and Pianoforte Solos)
- Oct. 20th GEO. THOMPSON, Esq.
 "The Gorges of the Ardèche in the Cevennes," (with Limelight Illustrations)
- Nov. 3rd HENRY F. NORTHCOTE, Esq.
 "Light, the Magician," (with Limelight Illustrations)
- Nov. 10th J. POTTER BRISCOE, Esq., F.R.S.L.
 "A Holiday in West Cornwall," (with Limelight Illustrations)
- Nov. 24th A. H. DUNNING, Esq., F.R.G.S., F.R.P.S.
 "Homeward across the World," (with Limelight Illustrations)
- Dec. 8th THE REV. CANON SUTTON, M.A.
 "Nicholas Nickleby."
- Dec. 22nd MR. R. K. DENT,
 Charles Dickens's "Christmas Carol," (reading, with Limelight Illustrations)

1909

- Jan. 5th WILLIAM IZON, Esq.
 "Norway, the Land of Waterfalls," (with Limelight Illustrations)
- Jan. 19th ERNEST YOUNG, Esq., B.Sc.
 "The Kingdom of the Yellow Robe: the Home Life of the Siamese," (with Limelight Illustrations)
- Feb. 2nd W. STUART SCOTT, Esq.
 "A Holiday on the Scottish Fiords," (with Limelight Illustrations)
- Feb. 16th CHARLES B. HOWDILL, Esq., F.R.I.B.A.
 "Servia and its People," (with Limelight Illustrations)
- Mar. 2nd JOHN J. WARD, Esq.
 "Nature's Quaintest Insects," (with Limelight Illustrations)
- Mar. 16th H. SNOWDEN WARD, Esq., F.R.P.S.
 "The Marvels of Photography," (with Limelight Illustrations)
- Mar. 30th W. J. CROSS, Esq.
 "William Vincent Wallace and his Works," (with Musical Illustrations by Madame Clare Gilbert, Miss Chatterley Ingram, Mr. Fred Thomas and Mr. Arnold Griffin.)

Lectures in the Branch Reading Room

Aston Cross.

Seven Monthly Talks, or One Hour Lectures, were delivered by the Chief Librarian in the Branch Reading Room, commencing each evening at nine and concluding at ten o'clock. They were as follows :—

1908

October 5th.

“Rambles Northward, in Northumberland, Yorkshire, and across the Border.”—With Limelight Illustrations.

November 2nd.

“Nature’s Wonderful Architecture, or some Natural Wonders of the World.”—With Limelight Illustrations.

December 7th.

“Westminster Abbey: its history and its monuments.”—With Limelight Illustrations.

December 28th.

Charles Dickens’s “Christmas Carol.”—With Limelight Illustrations.

1909

February 1st.

“An Hour with the American Humorists.”

March 1st.

“Pictures from English History.”—With Limelight Illustrations

April 5th.

“Historic Staffordshire: its scenery, legendary lore, and notable events.”—With Limelight Illustrations.

List of Donations to the Library

DURING THE YEAR.

Anti-Vivisection Society—

Report of the Royal Commission of Vivisection.
 The Zoophilist, monthly, as published
 The Animals' Friend, monthly, as published

Aston Manor, Corporation of—

Council Minutes, 1907-8

Aston Manor Institutions, Reports from—

Borough Treasurer Fire Brigade Education Committee Medical Officer of Health	|	Nursing Association Relief Association Sanitary Inspector Technical School
---	--	---

Australia, Government of—

Official Year-Book of the Commonwealth of Australia

Birmingham and Midland Institute (*per A. Hayes, Esq.*)—

Transactions of the Archæological Society, 1907
 Presidential Addresses, 1904-8

Birmingham University—

Calendar of the University, 1908-9

Board of Trade—

The Board of Trade Journal, as published
 Labour Gazette, as published, 2 copies

British Museum (Natural History Department)—

Guides—Exhibited Series of Insects
 Elephants, recent and fossil
 Domesticated Animals
 Gallery of Fishes
 Specimens of the Horse Family

Commons and Footpaths Preservation Society—

Reports (Illustrated) from 1897 to 1908

Cooke, W. E., Esq.—

Counsel and Comfort, by A. K. H. Boyd
 Life of E. Paxton Hood, by G. H. Giddins
 Seven Novels by C. M. Sheldon, and other works

Co-operative Union, Ltd.—

Report of the Newport Congress

Dent, Mr. R. K.—

Historical Studies, chiefly of Staffordshire, by J. L. & K. Cherry

Handsworth, Old and New, by F. W. Hackwood

Key to the Ancient Parish Registers of England, by A. M. Burke

Downing, W., Esq.—

The Rilands of Sutton Coldfield, by W. K. R. Bedford

Durham University—

Calendar of the University, 1909

Fisher, Sidney, Esq., J.P.—

Œuvres de Molière, illustrée par Janet-Lange

Hazelhurst, J., Esq. (the author)—

Flashes from the Orient, 2 vols.

Health Resort Handbooks—

(Various) from the respective Town Clerks and Advertising Boards

Libraries, Public, Reports, Catalogues, &c., from—

Aberdeen, Acton, Ashton-under-Lyne, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Battersea, Bebington, Belfast, Birmingham, Blackburn, Bolton, Bootle, Bradford, Brierley Hill, Brighton, Bristol, Bromley, Bury, Buxton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Chorley, Cork, Croydon, Derby, Dukinfield, Dundee, Ealing, Eccles, Finsbury, Folkestone, Glasgow (Baillie's), Glasgow (Stirling's), Gloucester, Hammersmith, Hanley, Hastings, Hereford, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Kelsal Rise, Kettering, Kidderminster, King's Norton, Leeds, Leek (Nicholson Institute), Leicester, Leyton, Lincoln, Liverpool, London (Cripplegate Foundation), Longton, Loughborough, Malvern, Montrose, New York, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Nottingham, Oldbury, Osaka, Oxford (Bodleian), Paisley, Penarth, Perth, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Preston, Richmond, Rochdale, Rugby, St. Helens, Salford, Shoreditch, Smethwick, Stockport, Stoke Newington, Stourbridge, Taunton, Torquay, Tottenham, Tynemouth, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Warrington, West Bromwich, Westminster, Weston-super-Mare, Wigan, Willesden (Kilburn), Willesden (Harlesden), Willesden Green, Wimbledon, Wolverhampton, Worcester, Workington, Great Yarmouth, York.

Morgan, Walter J., Esq.—

"Toby," a Birmingham Humorous Illustrated Weekly, 1868 (with the original drawings for the cartoons by the artist, Mr. W. J. Morgan)

Murray, J., Esq.—

British Trade Year Book, by J. H. Schooling, 3rd issue

Patent Office—

Patents Illustrated Official Journal, weekly, as published

Abridgments of Patents, in Classes, as published

Patent Office Library Series, as published

Price, Rev. G. E.—

The Oscotian, as published

Queensland, The Governor of—

A Queenly Colony, 1901

Registrar General, The—

Monthly List of Deceased Seamen, as published

Rylands Library, Manchester—

Several Lists, and Bulletin of the Library

Shorthouse, E. Esq., (the author)—

A Present for Youths and Young Men (new edition) 2 vols.

Simpkin, Marshall & Co., Messrs.—

Professor Kirk's Papers on Health

Simpson, W. S., Esq.—

The Voluntaryist Creed, by the Hon. Auberon Herbert

Smithsonian Institution—

Smithsonian Institution Annual Report, 1906

Society of Arts—

Journal of the Society, weekly, as published

Tariff Reform League—

The Great Preference Debate

The Speakers' Handbook

Tariff Reform Monthly Notes, as published

Thom, Alex., & Co.—

Directory of Manufacturers and Shippers of Ireland

University Tutorial Press—

London University Guide, 1909

Vegetarian Society—

Vegetarian Messenger, monthly, as published.

Also the Newspapers and Periodicals (from their respective publishers) marked thus * in the lists on pages 11-13.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Year ending March 31st, 1909.

[illegible]

The William Ansell Bequest

Amount of Bequest	...	...	...
Bank Interest and Interest on Mortgage, to January, 1909	...	...	...
	\$1,000	0	0
	\$145	11	11



Borough of Aston Manor.

THIRTY-SECOND

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Free Libraries Committee,

APRIL 1st, 1909 to MARCH 31st, 1910.

Aston Manor :

Printed for the Free Libraries Committee

Geo. Roobottom & Sons, Globe Works, High Street.

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Borough of Aston Manor.

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Borough of Aston Manor.

Free Libraries Committee.

1908-9.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR,
(ALDERMAN ALFRED TAYLOR, J.P.)
ALD. H. GUEST, J.P., *Chairman*.
COUNCILLOR R. HOLLICK, C.C.
COUNCILLOR A. W. LOWE.
COUNCILLOR H. McCALÉ.
COUNCILLOR E. SMITH.
MR. SIDNEY FISHER, J.P.
DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P., *Chairman*
of Book Sub-Committee.
REV. G. E. PRICE.
REV. CANON E. DALE ROBERTS, M.A.
MR. WILLIAM UNITE.

1909-10.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR,
(ALDERMAN ALFRED TAYLOR, J.P.)
COUNCILLOR T. P. BIRD, *Chairman*
ALDERMAN H. GUEST, J.P.
COUNCILLOR F. JONES.
COUNCILLOR A. W. LOWE, J.P.
COUNCILLOR H. McCALÉ.
MR. SIDNEY FISHER, J.P.
DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P., *Chair-*
man of Book Sub-Committee.
REV. G. E. PRICE.
REV. CANON E. DALE ROBERTS, M.A.
MR. WILLIAM UNITE

Hon. Sec.—MR. JOSEPH ANSELL, J.P., *Town Clerk*.

Assist. Hon. Sec.—MR. WILLIAM THOMPSON, *Dep. Town Clerk*.

Chief Librarian—MR. ROBERT K. DENT.

Sub-Librarian—MR. T. J. NEWELL.

Assistant Librarian and Curator at Branch Library—
MR. T. LOVEROCK.

Past Chairmen of the Free Libraries Committee.

1877-78. MR. EDWARD EVANS.
1878-83. DR. JOHN HARVEY.
1883-87. REV. FREDERICK SMITH, M.A.
1887-90. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.
1890-94. MR. JAMES OSBORNE.
1895-96. COUNCILLOR W. UNITE.
1896-97. COUNCILLOR W. E. COOKE.
1897-1900. COUNCILLOR H. GUEST.
1900-03. COUNCILLOR S. FISHER.
1903-04. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J.P.
1904-09. ALDERMAN H. GUEST, J.P.

REPORT.

*

The Free Libraries Committee have pleasure in presenting the Thirty-second Annual Report of the work of the Library.

One of the most pleasing features of the work of the year just ended has been the great increase of Juvenile borrowers, in consequence of the incentive toward the use of the Library given them by the teachers of various schools. More than a thousand new tickets have been issued in the course of the year, and the crowded condition of the Borrowing Hall at certain times of the day has afforded evidence of the newly awakened interest. As a consequence, the issues from the lending departments make a record, amounting, in the two Libraries, to close upon 150,000 volumes. The Juvenile readers have also made good use of the Reference Library during the year. The Committee would here express their appreciation of the co-operation of the teachers, which has brought about such excellent results.

During last summer a great and much-needed improvement was effected in the Central Reading Room and Reference Library. The large and cumbrous tables were removed, and the two rooms were fitted with smaller and more convenient tables, whereby accommodation was provided for eighteen additional seats and two new reading stands. The cost of this improvement was defrayed out of interest accruing on the William Ansell bequest. At the same time the whole of the Central Library premises were cleaned and painted.

The Committee have pleasure in reporting that during the year several scarce maps and prints, and a considerable number of old deeds relating to the Holte family, the endowment of the Aston Almshouse, and the advowson of the vicarage, have been secured, thus enriching the Local Collection in the Reference Library very materially. Among the deeds is a Patent granted to Sir Thomas Holte by Queen Elizabeth, with a fine impression of the great seal of her reign.

In furtherance of the provision of books for the Blind the Committee have entered into an agreement with the Incorporated National Lending Library for the Blind, for the hire of a number of books in the Braille and Moon types, to be exchanged monthly; and already an increased interest has been manifested among

readers of this class. It was obvious that an ample provision of books of this character, cumbrous and expensive as they are, could not be made by purchase, with the limited income of the Library, but by this means a fresh supply will be available every month at a comparatively small outlay.

The Free Lectures continue to maintain their popularity, and the programme of Lectures was of the usual high standard of excellence. In addition to the fifteen Lectures delivered at the Albert Hall, seven Lectures have been delivered in the Branch Reading Room by the Chief Librarian. The Committee here tender their thanks to the Lecturers for the valuable services rendered to the public through this institution. Lists of the Lectures will be found on pages 15 and 16 of this report.

The Committee have to mourn the loss of a highly esteemed colleague, and one who has served the Library as a member of the Committee from its formation. The late Dr. John Harvey J.P. was one of the chief movers in the adoption of the Act, had been Chairman of the Committee during three periods, extending to eight years in all, had been a member of the Book Sub-Committee from the beginning, and during the last five years its chairman. He had manifested his love for the Library by many valuable gifts of books, and on several occasions had delivered lectures on literary and musical subjects in connection with the Free Library Lectures. The members desire to place on record their sense of the great loss sustained by his death, and of the great service rendered by him to the Library during a period extending over nearly thirty-three years.

In the ensuing Records of Issues, Financial Statement, and other statistics, the year's work is set out in detail.

THOS. PUGH BIRD, *Chairman.*

ROBERT K. DENT, *Chief Librarian.*

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

(*Opened January 4th, 1882, with 2,300 volumes.*)

Number of Volumes in the Reference Department, March 31st, 1910.

	<i>Plans, Deeds, &c.</i>	<i>Vols.</i>	<i>Pamph's.</i>	<i>Total</i>
General Knowledge (Encyclopædias, Periodicals, etc.)	—	1091	11	1102
Philosophy	—	127	1	128
Religion	—	600	28	628
Sociology	—	256	105	361
Philology	—	126	17	143
Natural Science	—	814	32	846
Useful Arts (including Patent Abridgements)	—	1832	21	1853
Fine Arts	—	1007	25	1032
Literature—				
(a) General Literature	—	606	31	637
(b) Poetry and the Drama	—	576	1	577
(c) Prose Fiction	—	191	—	191
History—				
(a) General History	—	1169	24	1193
(b) Geography, Travel, and Topography	—	741	34	775
(c) Biography	—	624	22	646
(d) Local Books (Birmingham and Aston)	73	386	452	911
Total ...	73	10146	804	11023

Contents of Reference Library,

March 31st, 1909	...	54	9981	782	10817
Number of Vols. added during 1909-10	...	19	165	22	206
Total					<u>11023</u>

Number of Volumes consulted in the Reference Department during the year.

General Knowledge ... ..	...	...	...	6850
Philosophy ... ..	...	...	...	239
Religion ... ..	...	...	...	1170
Sociology ... ..	...	...	...	615
Philology ... ..	...	...	...	1283
Natural Science ... ..	...	...	...	874
Useful Arts ... ..	...	...	...	917
Fine Arts ... ..	...	...	...	1312
Literature—				
(a) General Literature ... ..	...	...	...	767
(b) Poetry and the Drama ... ..	...	...	...	906
(c) Prose Fiction ... ..	...	...	...	774
History—				
(a) General History ... ..	...	...	...	936
(b) Geography, Travel, and Topography	...	...	...	492
(c) Biography ... ..	...	...	...	614
(d) Local Books ... ..	...	...	...	374
Total				<u>18,623</u>
Number of days open	...	...	...	291
Daily Average	...	...	...	64

Principal Additions to the Library during the Year.

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Directorium Anglicanum, by J. Purchas, 1858; New Testament, Tischendorf text, trans. by S. Davidson; Thus Spake Zarathustra, by F. Nietzsche.

The Housing Problem in England, by E. L. Dewsnap; Parliamentary Report on Public Health and Social Condition of the People.

The Nature Book, 6 vols.; The Botany of Worcestershire, by Amphlett and Rea.

The Modern Laundry and Laundry Machinery, by Rothery and Edmunds.

Moorish Remains in Spain, by A. F. Calvert, 2 vols.; English Costume, by G. Clinch; British Military Prints, by R. Nevill; My School and My Gospel, by H. Herkomer; Prout's Microcosm: the artist's sketch book; Bewick's Select Fables.

Biographical and Critical Essays, by A. Hayward, 2 vols.; The Cambridge History of English Literature, vol. 4; William Shakespeare by C. Elton; Shakespeare's Story of his Life, by C. Creighton; Euphues the Peripatetic, by Parker Woodward; Charles Dickens and his Friends, by Teignmouth Shore; Charles Dickens, his life, writings and personality, by F. G. Kitton; Character Portraits from Dickens, by C. Welch.

The Last Years of the Protectorate, by C. H. Firth, 2 vols.; The Coronation Book of Edward VII, by W. J. Loftie; Lectures on the History of Kingship, by J. G. Frazer; Ruwenzori: the Duke of Abruzzi's Expedition, by F. de Filippi; Beautiful Wales, by E. Thomas; Wessex, by Clive Holland; Worcestershire, by A. G. Bradley; Egypt and its Monuments, by R. Hichens; Pennell's Life of J. McNeill Whistler, 2 vols.; Life and Work of Lord Leighton, by Mrs. R. Barrington, 2 vols.; etc.

CENTRAL LENDING LIBRARY.

Graven in the Rock, by S. Kinns; The Survival of Man, by Sir O. Lodge; Fact and Fable in Psychology, by J. Jastrow; Introduction to the New Testament, by S. Davidson, 2 vols; Luke the Physician, by Sir W. M. Ramsay; The Psalms in Human Life, by R. E. Prothero; The Service of Man, by J. C. Morison; A Pluralistic Universe, by W. James; Bible Sidelights from the Mound of Gezer, by R. A. S. Macalister; Psychic Philosophy, by V. C. Desertis; etc.

Life of John Watson (Ian Maclaren), by W. R. Nicoll; H.M.I. (Reminiscences of a School Inspector), by E. M. Kynnersley; Romance of a Pro-Consul (Sir George Grey), by J. Milne; The Story of the Guides by Col G. J. Younghusband; The Fourth Party, by H. E. Gorst; Record of an Aeronaut (Rev. J. M. Bacon) by G. Bacon; The Man of the Mask, by A. S. Barnes; Thirty-five Years' Experiences, by Rutland Barrington; Letters of William Blake; Mary Boyle: her book; A Bishop in the Rough, by D. W. Duthie; My Story, by Hall Came; Some Eminent Victorians, by J. C. Carr; Life of Col. Fred Burnaby, by T. Wright; Life of the Empress Eugenie, by J. T. Stoddart; Mr. Gladstone at Oxford, by C.R.L.; Life of G. A. Henty, by G. M. Fenn; Life of Lord Norton, by W. C. S. Pemberton; Garrick and his Circle, by Mrs. C. Parsons; George Bernard Shaw, by G. K. Chesterton; Memoirs of Sir Wemyss Reid; Nine Famous Birmingham Men, *edited* by Prof. Muirhead; An Actor's Story, by Bransby Williams.

Africa and its Explorers, 2 vols.; Historic Staffordshire, by R. K. Dent and J. Hill; Historic Warwickshire, by T. Burgess and J. Hill; Oxford described, by R. Peel and H. C. Minchin; Handbook to the Roman Wall, by J. C. Bruce; A Wanderer in Paris, by E. V. Lucas; The Road in Tuscany, by M. Hewlett, 2 vols.; Highways and Byways in Hertfordshire, by H. W. Tompkins; In Unknown Africa, by Major P. Cotton; The North-West Passage, by R. Amundsen, 2 vols.; The French People, by A. Hassall; The Spanish People, by M. A. S. Hume; The Tower of London, by C. G. Harper; An English Holiday *and* Untraveller England, by J. J. Hissey; Adventures in the Arctic Regions, by H. W. G. Hyrst; Heroes of Modern Crusades, Heroes of Modern India, *and* Romance of Modern Sieges, by E. Gilliat; Adventures on the High Mountains, by R. Stead; Tent-work in Palestine, by C. R. Conder, 2 vols.; George Grenfell and the Congo, by Sir H. Johnston, 2 vols.

The Case for Tariff Reform, by J. R. Watson; The Condition of England, by C. F. G. Masterman; The Story of Dartmoor Prison, by Basil Thomson, etc.

The Musical Educator, *ed.* by J. Greig, 5 vols.; Art in Great Britain and Ireland, by Sir W. Armstrong; Brief History of Wood Engraving, by J. Cundall; Birth and Development of Ornament, by F. E. Hulme; Artistic Anatomy, by M. Duval; Roses and Rose-growing, by R. G. Kingsley; Steel and Iron, by W. H. Greenwood; The Ether of Space, by Sir O. Lodge; Teaching and Class-Management, by J. Landon; My Airships, by Santos-Dumont; Navigating the Air, issued by the Aero Club; Mars as the Abode of Life, by P. Lowell; The Story of the Comets, by G. F. Chambers; Paradoxes of Nature and Science, by W. Hampson; Man and the Glacial Period, by G. F. Wright; The Lesson of Evolution, by F. W. Hutton; The Romance Series: Romance of Plant Life, Romance of Modern Manufacture, *and* Romance of the World's Fisheries; The Great Operas, by J. C. Hadden.

A Shropshire Lad, by A. E. Housman; Poesies, par A. de Musset; Three Plays, by Granville Barker; Plays, by J. Galsworthy; Faust, by S. Phillips and J. C. Carr; Joseph and his Brethren, by C. A. Wells.

155 Volumes of recent Fiction.

Portraits of the 17th Century, 2 vols. *and* Portraits of the 18th Century, by C. A. Sainte-Beuve, 2 vols.; Lectures and Essays, by A. Ainger, 2 vols.; Short History of English Printing, by H. R. Plomer; The Feminine Note in Fiction, by W. L. Courtney; Adventures in London, by James Douglas; Studies in Foreign Literature, by V. M. Crawford; Specimens of Early English Literature, by W. W. Skeat; Occasional Papers, by H. B. Irving; The Comic and Humorous Reciter, *ed.* by W. Pertwee; etc.

Music—Granville Bantock's Omar Khayyam, 3 parts; The Spirit also helpeth us, by J. S. Bach; Star Folio of Pianoforte Music, 3 vols.; The Second Star Folio of Songs; Our Miss Gibbs; The Fallen Fairies; The Dollar Princess; The Arcadians; etc.

72 Volumes of recent Juvenile Literature.

37 Volumes of Current Periodicals

BRANCH LENDING LIBRARY

94 Volumes of recent Works in Various Classes.

LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

Number of Volumes, March 31st, 1910.

CENTRAL LIBRARY, WITTON ROAD,

(Opened February 4th, 1878, with 2700 volumes.)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	598
Biography, History, Topography, Voyages and Travels	...	...	...	1667
Sociology	...	...	...	138
Arts and Sciences and Natural History	...	...	...	961
Games, Sports and Recreations	...	...	...	40
Poetry and the Drama...	...	...	...	396
Prose Fiction	...	...	...	457 ¹
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	1176
Magazines and Reviews	...	...	...	2118
* Music	...	...	...	420
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	1052
Books for the Blind (Braille and Moon Type)	...	...	...	27
Total	...	...	...	13164
Total of Lending Department, March 31st, 1909	...	...	...	12750
Deduct by vols. discarded, being duplicates, or worn out and not replaced	...	...	...	15
				12735
Number of vols. added during the year	...	...	...	429
				13164

BRANCH LIBRARY, ASTON CROSS,

(Lending Department opened December 14th, 1903.)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	69
Biography, History, Travels, etc	...	...	...	227
Sociology	...	...	...	14
Arts, Sciences, and Natural History	...	...	...	115
Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	54
Fiction	...	...	...	1210
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	61
Magazines	...	...	...	109
* Music	...	...	...	78
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	345
Books of Reference, Encyclopædias, Dictionaries, Concordances, etc.	...	...	...	65
Total	...	...	...	2353
Number of volumes in the Library, March 31st, 1909	...	...	...	2259
Number added during the year	...	...	...	94
				2353
Total number of Volumes in Lending Libraries	...	...	...	15,517

¹ i.e., *Musical Compositions*: Works on the History and Theory of Music, Exercises, etc., are counted in the Arts and Sciences Class

LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

STATISTICS OF ISSUES.

Classification of Volumes Issued from the Lending Libraries during the year 1909-10.

		<i>Central</i>		<i>Branch</i>		<i>Total</i>
Religion and Philosophy ...	...	579	...	56	...	635
Biography, History, Travel, etc. ...	...	2482	...	945	...	3427
Sociology ...	...	221	...	9	...	230
Arts, Sciences and Natural History ...	...	2419	...	315	...	2734
Poetry and the Drama ...	...	577	...	155	...	732
Prose Fiction ...	...	68086	...	18371	...	86457
Miscellaneous Literature ...	...	1733	...	305	...	2038
Magazines ...	...	4128	...	650	...	4778
Juvenile Books ...	...	27524	...	11613	...	39137
Unbound Periodicals ...	...	166	...	—	...	166
Renewals ...	...	2185	...	1919	...	4104
Music ...	...	2469	...	377	...	2846
		<u>112,569</u>		<u>34,715</u>		<u>147,284</u>
Daily Average		386		114		500

MONTHLY TOTALS, 1909-10		<i>Central</i>		<i>Branch</i>		<i>Total.</i>
April ...	...	9891	...	2282	...	12173
May ...	...	9064	...	2201	...	11265
June ...	...	9281	...	2348	...	11629
July ...	...	9012	...	2236	...	11248
*August ...	...	4680	...	1960	...	6640
September ...	...	8829	...	2556	...	11385
October ...	...	9840	...	3646	...	13486
November ...	...	10868	...	4347	...	15215
December ...	...	10218	...	3803	...	14021
January ...	...	10559	...	3537	...	14096
February ...	...	10087	...	3024	...	13111
March ...	...	10240	...	2775	...	13015
		<u>112,569</u>		<u>34,715</u>		<u>147,284</u>

* Closed for Cleaning during part of August :—Central, 2 weeks, Branch, 1 week.

Grand Total of Issues, 1878-1910.

From the Lending and Reference Libraries.

Year Ending	Central Lending	Branch Lending	Reference
March, 1879	... 75,036	... —	...
„ 1880	... 70,914	... —	...
„ 1881	... 67,583	... —	...
„ 1882	... 66,092	... —	2,109
„ 1883	... 75,395	... —	8,096
„ 1884	... 69,247	... —	11,041
„ 1885	... 77,219	... —	12,380
„ 1886	... 73,368	... —	14,599
„ 1887	... 94,979	... —	16,208
„ 1888	... 91,761	... —	16,769
„ 1889	... 82,605	... —	14,199
„ 1890	... 67,467	... —	16,616
„ 1891	... 67,692	... —	18,485
„ 1892	... 77,621	... —	15,311
„ 1893	... 81,319	... —	12,012
„ 1894	... 84,026	... —	12,599
„ 1895	... 82,036	... —	14,967
„ 1896	... 87,100	... —	12,409
„ 1897	... 67,593	... —	10,401
„ 1898	... 62,874	... —	11,287
„ 1899	... 63,682	... —	10,959
„ 1900	... 72,724	... —	10,698
„ 1901	... 80,150	... —	14,309
„ 1902	... 82,032	... —	14,114
„ 1903	... 90,051	... —	15,849
„ 1904	... 87,545	8 291	17,264
„ 1905	... 89,904	31,370	17,604
„ 1906	... 97,790	27,661	17,172
„ 1907	... 96,877	26,449	17,440
„ 1908	... 97,811	25,918	18,230
„ 1909	... 109,096	24,216	20,006
„ 1910	... 112,569	34,715	18,623
	<u>2,602,158</u>	<u>178,620</u>	<u>411,756</u>

Grand Total of Issues in all Departments since the
opening of the Libraries

3,192,534

Central Reading Rooms.

(Opened January 4th, 1882.)

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those Marked thus * are presented by the Publishers.*

Daily.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily News
„ Gazette-Express (3)	„ Daily Mail
„ Daily Mail (3)	„ Daily Telegraph 2
„ Daily Post (4)	„ Morning Leader
London Daily Chronicle	„ Standard
„ Daily Graphic	„ Times

Weekly.

Academy	Graphic
Amateur Photographer	Guardian
Army and Navy Gazette	Harper's Weekly
Aston News	* Hereford Times
Aston Villa (Football) News (2)	Illustrated London News
Athenæum	Inquirer
Baptist	* Journal of the Society of Arts
Belfast Weekly News	Labour Leader
* Birmingham Owl	Labour News
* „ Pictorial and Dart	* Lincoln and Stamford Mercury
„ Weekly Mercury	Liverpool Weekly Post
„ Weekly Post	* Local Government Chronicle
Black and White	London Opinion
* Board of Trade Journal	M.A.P.
British Congregationalist	Methodist Recorder
British Weekly	* Midland Counties Herald
Building News	* Motor Traction
Bystander	* Municipal Journal
Cambrian News	Nation
* Canada	Nature
Christian World	Notes and Queries
Church Family Newspaper	* Patents : Illustrated Official Journal
* Civil Service Aspirant	Pitman's (Phonetic) Journal
* Civil Service Candidate	Public Opinion
* Civil Service Weekly	Punch
Clarion	Queen
Contract Journal	Saturday Review
* Contractors' Record	School Government Chronicle
* Co-operative News	Scientific American
Daily Mail (Weekly Ed'n for Blind)	Scotsman
* Drapers' Record	Sketch
Dublin Freeman's Journal	Spectator
Electrical Review	Sphere
Electrician	Sunday School Chronicle
Engineer	T.P.'s Weekly
Engineering	Tablet
English Mechanic	Truth
Exchange and Mart	* University Correspondent
Field	* Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser
Garden	* Western Weekly News
Gardening	Westminster Gazette (Sat. edition)
Gentlewoman	* Worcester Journal (Berrow's)
* Gloucestershire Chronicle	Work
	Yorkshire Post

FORTNIGHTLY.

*Certificate Examiner
India Rubber Trades Journal

*University Correspondent

MONTHLY.

Agricultural Economist
*Animals' Friend
*Arbitrator
Architectural Review
*Arms and Explosives
Art Journal
*B'ham King Edw. School Chronicle
Blackwood's Magazine
Bookman
Burlington Magazine
Captain, The
Cassell's Magazine
Century Magazine
Chambers's Journal
Contemporary Review
Cornhill Magazine
*Educational Times
English Illustrated Magazine
*Forester's Miscellany
Fortnightly Review
*Free Trader
Harper's Monthly Magazine
*Humanitarian
Idler
*Insurance Agent and Review
*Journal of incorp. Soc. of Musicians
Knowledge
*Labour Gazette
Library Association Record

Library World
Literary World
London Magazine, The
*Musical Herald
Musical Times
Nash's Magazine
*New Church Magazine
New Magazine
Nineteenth Century and After
North American Review
*Our Own Magazine (Y.W.C.A.)
Pall Mall Magazine
Pearson's Magazine
Photographic Monthly
*Plumber and Decorator
Quiver
*Reg. Gen.'s List of Deceased Seamen
Review of Reviews
*State Correspondent
Strand Magazine
Sunday at Home
*Tariff Reform Notes
*Vaccination Inquirer
*Vegetarian Messenger
Wide World Magazine
Windsor Magazine
Woman at Home
*Zoophilist

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Railway Guide
*Great Eastern Railway
*Great Western Railway
*Hammond's Railway Guide

*London & North-Western Railway
*London & South-Western Railway
*Midland Railway
*North-Eastern Railway
*White & Pike's Railway Guide

QUARTERLY, &c.

*Emigrants' Information Circulars

St. George : Journal of the Birmingham Ruskin Society

ANNUALS

Academy Pictures (Cassell)
*Aston Manor Council Proceedings
Birmingham Diocesan Calendar
Birmingham Red Book
*Birmingham University Calendar
*B'ham Soc. of Artists' Catalogue
*Co-operative Congress Reports
Directories (Birmingham, London, Liverpool, Manchester, etc.)
*Durham University Calendar
Financial Reform Almanack
Hazell's Annual
*Incorporated Society of Musicians' Year Book
*The Insurance Register
Library Association Year Book

*Register of Institute of Chartered Accountants
Literary Year Book
Low's English Catalogue ; Annual Supplement
Municipal Year Book
*National Union of Teachers Year Book
*Smithsonian Instit'n Annual Report
*Stubbs' Directory
Studio Extra Numbers
Studio Year Book of Decorative Art
*Transactions of the Archæological Society, Midland Institute
Whitaker's Almanack
The Year's Art

BRANCH · READING ROOM,

ASTON CROSS.

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those Marked thus * are presented by the Publishers.*

DAILY.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily News
„ Gazette-Express (2)	„ Daily Mail
„ Daily Mail (3)	„ Daily Telegraph
„ Daily Post (4)	„ Standard
London Daily Chronicle	

WEEKLY.

*Aston News	Harper's Weekly (second week)
Athenæum (second week)	Illustrated London News
*Birmingham Owl	Labour Leader
„ Weekly Mercury	Labour News
„ Weekly Post	London Opinion
Bystander (second week)	M.A.P.
Cassell's Saturday Journal	*Midland Counties Herald
Clarion, The	*Pitman's (Phonetic) Journal
Electrician (second week)	Public Opinion
Electrical Review (second week)	Punch
Engineer	Queen (second week)
Engineering (second week)	Saturday Review (second week)
English Mechanic	Scientific American (second week)
Field (second week)	Sketch (second week)
Garden	Spectator (second week)
Gardening	T.P.'s Weekly
Gentlewoman (second week)	Truth (second week)
Graphic	Westminster Gazette (Sat. Edition)
	Work

MONTHLY.

*Animals' Guardian	Literary World
Band of Hope Review (2)	London Magazine, The
British Workman	Pall Mall Magazine
Captain, The	Pearson's Magazine
Cassell's Magazine	Strand Magazine
Chambers's Journal	Sunday at Home
Cottager and Artisan	Wide World Magazine
English Illustrated Magazine	Windsor Magazine
*Labour Gazette	Woman at Home
	*Zoophilist

RAILWAY TIME=TABLES.

Bradshaw's Railway Guide	*London & South Western Railway
*Great Eastern Railway	*Midland Railway
*Great Western Railway	*North Eastern Railway
*London & North Western Railway	*White and Pike's Railway Guide

General Summary of the Work of the Library

In all its departments during the Year ending March 31st, 1910.

Total Number of Volumes in, and of Issues from, the Libraries :—

	No. of Volumes	Issues during 1909-10
Reference Library ...	11,023	18,623
Central Lending Library ...	13,164	112,569
Branch Library, Aston Cross ...	2,353	34,715
	<u>26,540</u>	<u>165,907</u>

Estimated Total Attendance at the Fifteen Free Lectures ...	5,600
" " " Seven Branch Library Lectures ...	900
Number of Volumes added to the Reference Library ...	206
" " added to the Central Lending Library ...	429
" " added to the Branch Library ...	94
Number of Days open during the year ...	291
" Notifications paid for ..	Central 156
" " " 	Branch 23
" Pence paid as Fines for detention of books ...	Central 10,092
" " " " " ..	Branch 3,902
" Lost or Worn-out Volumes replaced ...	Central 205
" " " " " 	Branch 27
" Books re-bound, bound from paper covers, or repaired by binder ..	Central 724
" " " " " " ..	Branch 213
" Volumes of Periodicals bound (Reference and Lending)	111
Daily Average Issue, Reference ...	64
" " Central Lending ...	386
" " Branch Lending ...	114
Number of Borrowers Tickets issued during the year ...	Central 2,070*
" " " " " 	Branch 828*
Present Total of Borrowers using the Central Library ...	about 3,500
" " " Branch Library ...	about 1200

* Does not include the Second Tickets issued for Music.

FREE LECTURES

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL COURSE OF FREE LECTURES, delivered under the auspices of the FREE LIBRARIES COMMITTEE, consisted of fifteen Lectures. They were as follows :—

1909.

- OCT. 5th, Mr. ROBERT. K. DENT,
 "Some Famous Artists of the Nineteenth Century" (with
 Limelight Illustrations).
 (In place of Mr. G. E. Thompson, indisposed.)
- OCT. 19th. THE REV. JAMES WYLIE,
 "Robert Louis Stevenson and his Works"
- NOV. 2nd. THE REV. T. F. NICHOLAS, M.A.
 "Wanderings in Spain" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- NOV. 16th. H. SNOWDEN WARD, ESQ., F.R.P.S.
 "The Humour and Pathos of Charles Dickens" (with
 Limelight Illustrations)
- NOV. 30th. R. R. CARTER, ESQ.
 "Caricature and the Caricaturists" (with Limelight
 Illustrations).
- DEC. 14th. R. W. SINDALL, ESQ. F.C.S.,
 "From Forest to Fireside: or How a Newspaper is made
 of Wood" (with Limelight Illustrations).
- DEC. 28th. WALKER R. YARDLEY, ESQ., L.C.P.
 "The Greatest Englishman : or, Shakespeare : his Life and
 Times" (with Limelight Illustrations)

1910.

- JAN. 4th. WILLIAM IZON, ESQ.
 "The South Coast of England : Historic and Picturesque
 (with Limelight Illustrations).
- JAN. 18th. W. STUART SCOTT, ESQ.
 "Beautiful Erin, via North Wales" (with Limelight
 Illustrations, and Illustrated Songs by Mrs. Stuart Scott)
- FEB. 1st. A. H. DUNNING, ESQ., F.R.G.S.
 "The Romance and Humour of Invention" (with Limelight
 Illustrations).
- FEB 15th. CAPT. W. P. BENSON, F.R.G.S.
 "Morocco, the Canary Islands and the Madeira" (with
 Limelight Illustrations).
- MAR. 1st. A. CAPEL SHAW, ESQ.
 "The Romance of the Solar System"
- MAR 15th. OLIVER G. PIKE, ESQ., F.Z.S.
 "In Birdland with a Camera" (with Limelight Illustrations)
- MAR. 22nd. H. BROWNING BUTTON, ESQ.
 "The Romance of Travel, by Air, Sea, and Land" (with
 Bioscope Illustrations).
- APRIL 5th. THE REV. CANON SUTTON, M.A.
 "The Old Curiosity Shop."

Lectures in the Branch Reading Room

Aston Cross.

Seven Monthly Talks, or One Hour Lectures, were delivered by the Chief Librarian in the Branch Reading Room, commencing each evening at nine and concluding at ten o'clock. They were as follows :—

1909 October 4th,

"The English Village : a picture of Aston in the
Olden Time."

With Limelight Illustrations.

November 8th,

"Crossing the Stream : Bridge Builders and their
Work in every age."

With Limelight Illustrations.

December 6th,

"Some Recent Books of Travel."

With Limelight Illustrations.

1910 January 3rd,

"Some Early Victorian Humorists."

February 7th,

"Eyes and no eyes : or how to add to the Pleasures
of Life."

With Limelight Illustrations.

March 7th,

"The English Cathedral and how it has grown."

With Limelight Illustrations.

April 4th,

"Some Humorists of the Pencil."

With Limelight Illustrations.

List of Donations to the Library

DURING THE YEAR.

Anonymous—

Rome and Germany, by "Watchman"

Anti-Vivisection Society—

The Zoophilist, monthly, as published

The Animals' Friend, monthly, as published

Aston Manor, Corporation of—

Council Minutes, 1908-9

Aston Manor Institutions, Reports from—

Borough Treasurer

Fire Brigade

Education Committee

Medical Officer of Health

Nursing Institution

Relief Association

Sanitary Inspector

Technical School

Australia, Government of—

Official Year-Book of the Commonwealth

Australia, South, Government of—

Gordon's Handbook of South Australia

Birmingham and Midland Institute (*per A. Hayes, Esq.*)

Transactions of the Archæological Society, 1908

Birmingham Free Libraries (*per A. Capel Shaw, Esq.*)—

"What shall I Read," by A. Capel Shaw

Sale Catalogue of Aston Hall

Birmingham University—

Calendar of the University, 1909-1910

Board of Trade—

The Board of Trade Journal, as published

Labour Gazette, as published, 2 copies

British Museum (Trustees of the)—

Guide to Egyptian Collections

Guide to Egyptian Galleries (Sculpture)

Exhibition illustrating Greek and Roman Life

Catalogue of Indian Coins, Andhras, etc.

British Museum (Natural History Department)—

Catalogue of Fresh-Water Fishes of Africa

British Basidiomycetes

Guide to Whales, Porpoises and Dolphins

Introduction to the Study of Rocks

Races of Mankind (Guide to Specimens)

Study of Meteorites

Canadian Government—

Experimental Farms Reports, 1908

Illustrated Handbook of Canada

Casson, H. N., Esq., (New York)—

Silas Hall McCormick; his Life and Work

Co-operative Union, Ltd.—
Report of the Newcastle Congress

Cowley, Miss (the author)—
A Serpent in His Way
A Minister of Fate

Durham University—
Calendar of the University, 1909-10

Greenwood, T. F., Esq.—
The Book of Mormon

Hackwood, F. W., Esq. (the author)—
Handsworth: Old and New, 2 copies

Hall, W., Esq. M.A. (the author)—
Via Crucis (a poem)

Harvey, Dr. J., J.P.—
Bagster's Comprehensive Bible

Health Resort Handbooks—
(Various) from the respective Town Clerks and Advertising Boards

Jannaway, F. G., Esq.—
Christendom Astray

Lawrance, Sir E. Durning—
Facsimile of an MS. at Alnwick Castle

Libraries, Public, Reports, Catalogues, &c., from—

Aberdeen, Acton, Ashton-under-Lyne, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Batley, Battersea, Bebington, Belfast, Birmingham, Blackburn, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Bradford, Brierley Hill, Brighton, Bristol, Bromley, Bury, Buxton, Cambridge, Cardiff, Chorley, Cork, Coventry, Croydon, Derby, Dukinfield, Dundee, Ealing, Eastbourne, Eccles, Erdington, Finsbury, Folkestone, Glasgow (Stirling's), Gloucester, Hammersmith, Hanley, Handsworth, Hastings, Hereford, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Kensal Rise, Kettering, King's Norton, Leeds, Leicester, Leyton, Lincoln, Liverpool, London (Bishopsgate Foundation), London (Cripplegate Foundation), Loughborough, Montrose, New York, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Nottingham, Oldbury, Osaka (Japan), Oxford (Bodleian), Paisley, Penarth, Perth, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Richmond, Rochdale, St. Annes-on-Sea, St. Helens, Salford, Shoreditch, Smethwick, Stockport, Stoke Newington, Taunton, Torquay, Tottenham, Tynemouth, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Warrington, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, West Bromwich, Westminster, Weston-super-Mare, Wigan, Willesden (Kilburn), Willesden (Harlesden), Willesden Green, Wimbledon, Wolverhampton, Worcester, Workington, Great Yarmouth, York.

London, Corporation of the City of—
Calendar of Letter Books, I. Henry IV. and V.

Minton, Francis, Esq. (the author)—
The Evil of the Millionaire

Newcastle Public Libraries (*per the Chief Librarian*)—
Catalogue of the Central Lending Library
also smaller Catalogues

Patent Office—
Patents Illustrated Official Journal, weekly, as published
Abridgments of Patents, in Classes, as published
Patent Office Library Series, as published

- Peace Society, The—
Armaments and their Results, by A. Carnegie
- Percival, Rev. W. G.—
Life and Writings of Edward Irving
- Price, Rev. G. E.—
Œuvres de Masillon, 14 vols.
- Registrar-General, The—
Monthly List of Deceased Seamen, as published
- Rylands Library, Manchester—
Several Lists
- Salvation Army, The—
The Great Idea, by A. White
- Smithsonian Institution—
Smithsonian Institution Annual Reports, 1908 and 1909
- Society of Arts—
Journal of the Society, weekly, as published
- University Tutorial Press—
London University Guide, 1910
- Uruguay, Republic of—
Annual Report, 1907-8
- Vegetarian Society—
Vegetarian Messenger, monthly, as published
- Yates, R. P., Esq., J.P.—
My Tour through British Dominions, 4 copies
-

Also the Newspapers and Periodicals (from their respective publishers) marked thus * in the lists on pages 11-13.

Financial Statement. Year ending March 31st, 1910.

Income		Expenditure.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1909		1910	
April 1st—To Balance in hand	... 273 8 6	Mar. 31st— <i>Central Library</i> —	
1910		By Salaries	419 13 10
Mar. 31st—To Rate at 1d. in the £	990 0 0	Books	124 10 3
		Newspapers and Periodicals	91 9 8
<i>Central Library</i> —		Binding	82 18 7
To Fines	42 1 0	Printing	11 17 0
Catalogues, &c.	5 17 0	Light, water, fuel and cleaning	87 9 3
Re-Sales and Damages...	6 9 6	Repairs and Sundries	62 7 0
			880 5 7
<i>Branch Library</i> —			
Fines	16 5 2	Salaries	83 8 4
Catalogues, &c.	1 9 11	Books	9 14 3
Re-Sales and Damages...	9 9 0	Newspapers and Periodicals	24 9 6
		Binding	13 6 10
<i>Lectures</i> —		Printing	2 6 2
Advs. in Lecture Programmes	3 2 6	Light, water, fuel, etc.	56 8 1
	75 14 1	Repairs and Sundries	29 3 0
			218 16 2
		Lecture Expenses (Central and Branch)	70 12 10
		Balance in hand	169 8 0
			£1339 2 7

To: William Ansell Bequest

During the year 1909-10 the sum of £71 19s. 0d. for Library Fittings and Furniture, has been paid out of interest on Mortgage, leaving on March 31st, 1910, Bequest, £1000, Bank Interest and Interest on Mortgage, £116 4s. 2d.

£1,116 4s. 2d.



Borough of Aston Manor.

THIRTY-THIRD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Free Libraries Committee,

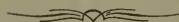
APRIL 1st, 1910 to MARCH 31st, 1911

Aston Manor:

Printed for the Free Libraries Committee

Geo. Roobottom & Sons, Globe Works, High Street.

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Borough of Aston Manor.

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OF THE

Free Libraries Committee,

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Aston Manor:

Printed for the Free Libraries Committee

Geo. Roobottom & Sons, Globe Works, High Street,

Borough of Aston Manor.

Free Libraries Committee.

1909-10.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR,
(ALDERMAN ALFRED TAYLOR, J. P.)
COUNCILLOR T. P. BIRD *Chairman*

ALDERMAN H. GUEST, J. P.

COUNCILLOR F. JONES.

COUNCILLOR A. W. LOWE, J. P.

COUNCILLOR H. McCALÉ.

MR. SIDNEY FISHER, J. P., *Chairman of Book Sub-Committee.*

MR. ROBERT GARRATT.

REV. G. E. PRICE.

REV. CANON E. DALE ROBERTS M.A.

MR. WILLIAM UNITE.

1910-11.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR,
(ALDERMAN ALFRED TAYLOR, J. P.)
COUNCILLOR T. P. BIRD, *Chairman*

COUNCILLOR C. BUTLER

COUNCILLOR F. JONES.

COUNCILLOR A. H. JAMES

COUNCILLOR A. W. LOWE, J. P.

MR. SIDNEY FISHER, J. P., *Chairman of Book Sub-Committee.*

MR. ROBERT GARRATT.

REV. G. E. PRICE.

REV. CANON E. DALE ROBERTS, M.A.

MR. WILLIAM UNITE.

Hon. Sec.—MR. JOSEPH ANSELL, J. P., *Town Clerk.*

Assist. Hon. Sec.—MR. WILLIAM THOMPSON. *Dep. Town Clerk.*

Chief Librarian—MR. ROBERT K. DENT.

Sub-Librarian—MR. T. J. NEWELL.

Assistant Librarian and Curator at Branch Library—

MR. T. LOVEROCK.

Past Chairmen of the Free Libraries Committee.

1877-78. MR. EDWARD EVANS.

1878-83. DR. JOHN HARVEY.

1883-87. REV. FREDERICK SMITH, M.A.

1887-90. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J. P.

1890-94. MR. JAMES OSBORNE.

1895-96. COUNCILLOR W. UNITE.

1896-97. COUNCILLOR W. E. COOKE.

1897-1900. COUNCILLOR H. GUEST.

1900-03. COUNCILLOR S. FISHER.

1903-04. DR. JOHN HARVEY, J. P.

1904-09. ALDERMAN H. GUEST, J. P.

REPORT.

The Free Libraries Committee have pleasure in presenting the Thirty-third Annual Report of the work of the Library.

From the Tables of Issues appended to this Report it will be seen that the interest in the various departments of the Library has been fully maintained. There is a slight falling-off in the issues from the Lending Libraries, but no more than may be accounted for by the improvement in trade ; while the Reference Library issues show a steady increase, the total of 20,640 being higher than that of any year since the opening of the Library.

The provision of Books for the Blind by means of a monthly supply obtained on hire from the National Library for the Blind, has been greatly appreciated during the past year, and has fully justified the experiment made twelve months ago in this direction.

The Catalogue of the Central Lending Library has been extended and completed by the issue of a Supplement of 110 pages ; and a new edition of the Hand list of Fiction, which is highly appreciated by borrowers, has also been prepared and is now on sale. The Committee believe that few public libraries are more amply provided with catalogues for various classes of readers than those of Aston Manor, which are fully enumerated on the cover of this Report. Besides the printed Catalogues there are also two extensive card-indexes available for reference—an Index of Subjects treated of in various works in the Lending and Reference Libraries, and a complete Index of Titles of Fiction, including Juvenile books.

Among the Donations of the year, which are set forth in detail, one item calls for special mention. The late Dr. John Harvey had for many years been engaged in the formation of a valuable collection illustrative of Warwickshire antiquities, based on Dugdale's Warwickshire, and shortly after his lamented death his daughter, Miss Ruth Harvey, presented this collection to the Reference Library. This interesting and priceless collection includes many rare maps, prints, and drawings, and a mass of printed matter in illustration of the great county history, and has been handsomely bound in three large volumes for permanent preservation in the Reference Library.

The Committee have again to record the loss of a valued colleague, who, during the greater part of his public life as a member of the local authority was intimately associated with the work of the Free Libraries. The late Alderman Guest was elected a member of the Local Board in 1890 and in 1892 became a member of the Free Libraries Committee. He was chairman of the Committee from 1897 to 1900, and from 1904 to 1909. During his eighteen years of service on the Committee he took the greatest interest in the work, and his loss has been keenly felt by every member of the Committee.

The Lectures have again proved highly popular, and have all been well attended. Fourteen Lectures have been given at the Albert Hall by well-known and able lecturers; and seven in the Branch Reading Room by the Chief Librarian. The Committee here tender their thanks to the lecturers for the valuable services rendered to the public through this institution. Lists of the Lecturers will be found on pages 18-19 of this Report.

During last summer the Branch Library and Reading Room were cleaned and renovated, the Library being closed for that purpose one week.

By the provisions of the Local Government Provisional Order (Greater Birmingham Scheme) the Borough of Aston Manor will in a few months become a part of the extended area of the City of Birmingham. The Committee have great satisfaction in reporting that under this order the Aston Manor Reference and Lending Libraries will be retained to the district in their integrity, and that the William Ansell Bequest of £1,000 will be exclusively expended or applied for the benefit of the Reference Library.

In the ensuing Records of Issues, Financial Statement, and other statistics, the year's work is set out in detail.

THOS. PUGH BIRD, *Chairman*.

ROBERT K. DENT, *Chief Librarian*,

THE CHIEF LIBRARIAN.

This being in all probability the last Report to be issued by the Free Libraries Committee of the Borough of Aston Manor, the Committee have decided to avail themselves of this opportunity of placing on record their high appreciation of the long and valuable services rendered to the inhabitants of the town by the Chief Librarian, Mr. Robert K. Dent, whose great ability and untiring energy have made the Aston Manor Libraries so eminently useful and successful.

Mr. Dent was appointed Librarian in 1877, when the Free Libraries Act was adopted, and has acted continuously in that capacity to the present day, much to the benefit of the community, especially to students and the reading public generally. His great organising ability, his knowledge of books, his initiative and ever ready advice have gained for him the esteem and respect of the Committee and the public at large.

The efficiency of the Libraries bears favourable comparison with that in towns of greater size and population. From a modest beginning in a temporary building opposite its present home the Library has grown steadily, increasing by degrees from the 2,700 volumes at the commencement to the 27,000 of which the present libraries consist, and there are now very extensive Reference and Lending Libraries, with Reading Rooms, at the Central Library, and a Branch Library and Reading Room at Aston Cross. Both the Reference and Lending Libraries afford evidence of careful selection, the

former including special features which we owe to Mr. Dent's fostering care, and the Committee desire to record their obligation to him for the services rendered by him in the selection and care exercised in the development and growth of the Libraries.

On the suggestion of Mr. Dent, Free Library Lectures were established in 1883, and have been continued up to the present year. These have been highly appreciated, and have become an established institution in the town, the attendance being only limited by the capacity of the Hall in which they are held. The Committee express the hope that similar lectures will be continued in the future. It should be stated that the Librarian undertook the labour of organising and carrying on the Lectures, and also began himself a series of monthly Lectures at the Aston Cross Branch, and has continued them to the present time. These also have attracted crowded audiences. The Committee unite in expressing to Mr. Dent very sincere thanks, and heartily wish him God speed, and that success in the future which he so well deserves.

Signed on behalf of the Free Libraries Committee,

THOMAS PUGH BIRD, *Chairman*.

SIDNEY FISHER, J P.,

(*Chairman of Books Sub-Committee*).

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

(*Opened January 4th, 1882, with 2,300 volumes.*)

Number of Volumes in the Reference Department, March 31st, 1911.

	<i>Plans, Deeds, &c.</i>	<i>Vols.</i>	<i>Pamph's.</i>	<i>Total</i>
General Knowledge (Encyclopædias, Bibliographical Works, Periodicals, etc.)	—	1119	11	1130
Philosophy	—	128	1	129
Religion	—	622	28	650
Sociology	—	259	110	369
Philology	—	126	17	143
Natural Science	—	828	32	860
Useful Arts (including Patent Abridgements)	—	1925	21	1946
Fine Arts	—	1049	27	1076
Literature—				
(a) General Literature	—	620	31	651
(b) Poetry and the Drama	—	584	2	586
(c) Prose Fiction	—	193	—	193
History—				
(a) General History	—	1177	24	1201
(b) Geography, Travel, and Topography	3	767	34	804
(c) Biography	—	627	23	650
(d) Local Books (Birmingham and Aston)	73	395	454	922
Total ...	76	10419	815	11310
<hr/>				
Contents of Reference Library, March 31st, 1910	73	10146	804	11023
Number of Vols. added during 1910-11 ...	3	273	11	287
Total	76	10419	815	11310

Number of Volumes consulted in the Reference Department during the year.

General Knowledge ... ..	...	...	...	7317
Philosophy ... ..	...	...	...	299
Religion ... ..	...	...	...	1286
Sociology ... ..	...	...	...	552
Philology ... ..	...	...	...	1419
Natural Science ... ..	...	...	...	1034
Useful Arts ... ..	...	...	...	1437
Fine Arts ... ..	...	...	...	1467
Literature—				
(a) General Literature ... ..	...	...	...	874
(b) Poetry and the Drama ... ..	...	...	...	1008
(c) Prose Fiction ... ..	...	...	...	724
History—				
(a) General History ... ..	...	...	...	1081
(b) Geography, Travel, and Topography	...	...	...	1108
(c) Biography ... ..	...	...	...	669
(d) Local Books ... ..	...	...	...	365
Total				20,640
<hr/>				
Number of days open ... ..	...	...	...	308
Daily Average ... ..	...	...	...	67

Principal Additions to the Library during the Year.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

Encyclopædia of Religion and Ethics, ed. by Hastings, vols. 2-3; The Essence of Christianity, by L. Feuerbach, trans. by M. A. Evans (George Eliot); Pessimism, by J. Sully; Manual of Scandinavian Mythology, by G. Pigott; *Hymnology Collection*; H. F. Lyte's Poems, 1845; The Masque of Mary, by E. Caswall, 1858; Hymns by B. Heber, 1828; Christmas Tyde: Hymns and Carols (Pickering 1849).

Pagan Races of the Malay Peninsula, by Skeat and Blagdon, 2 vols; Science in Modern Life, ed. by J. R. A. Davis, vols. 5-6; Text-Book of Geology, by Lake and Rastell.

The Old Testament, The Gospels and the Apostles in Art, by W. S. Sparrow, 3 vols; Dudley Hardy, by A. E. Johnson; Lawson Wood, by A. E. Johnson (Brush, Pen, and Pencil Series); Social Caricature of the 18th Century, by G. Paston; La Joallerie Francaise, par G. Meusnier; British Costume, by Mrs. C. H. Ashdown; Old Pewter, by M. Bell; Embroidery, ed. by Mrs. A. H. Christie; Ideals in Art, by Walter Crane; Old Christmas, illust. by R. Caldecott; (large paper); Bunyan's Pilgrims Progress, illust. by Fred. Barnard. etc; *Collection of Illustrated Juvenile Books*; Lilliput Lyrics, by W. B. Rands; Fairy Tales by Mark Lenion, illust. by Doyle and Bennett; The Piper of Hamelin, by R. Buchanan, illust. by Hugh Thomson.

Morris's Earthly Paradise, 5 vols.; Suppressed Poems of Tennyson; Cambridge History of Literature, vols. 5-5; Dictionary of the Waverley Novels, by Husband; Literary History of the Adelphi, by A. Brereton; The Dickens Dictionary, by A. J. Philip; Dickens and the Drama, by S. J. A. Fitz-Gerald.

Political History of England, vol. 6, (completing the work, 12 vols.); The Cambridge Modern History, Vol. 12, (Completing the work, 12 vols.); The Governance of London by G. L. Gomme;

Vanishing England, by P. E. Ditchfield; Sherwood Forest, by J. Rogers; Memorials of Old Staffordshire, ed. by W. Beresford; Windsor by R. R. Holmes; Early London Theatres, by T. F. Ordish; Antiquarian and Topographical Cabinet. (Storer and Greig) 10 vols. ; Dugdale's Warwickshire, extra illustrated by Dr. J. Harvey. 3 vols.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Bishop Gore on the Epistles to the Romans and Ephesians, and on the Sermon on the Mount. 4 vols. On the Interpretation of Scripture, etc. by B. Jowett; The Pilgrim Church, by P. C. Ainsworth; Broken Earthenware, by H. Begbie; The Doctrines of Grace, by Dr. J. Watson; Ideals in Sunday School Teaching, by A. H. Angus; The Substance of Faith, by Sir O. Lodge; Our own English Bible, and the Bible of the Reformation, by W. J. Heaton.

Reminiscences of Dean Royle; Autobiography of a Journalist, by W. J. Stillmann, 2 vols.; Passages from the Past, by the Duke of Argyll, 2 vols.; Life of Laurence Sterne by P. Fitzgerald; Marie Antoinette, by

H. Belloc ; Life of Thomas Burt, by A. Watson ; Studies in Biography, by Sir Spencer Walpole ; Recollections of Fifty Years, by I. F. Mayo ; The Incomparable Siddons, by Mrs. C. Parsons ; Memories of Sixty Years, by Oscar Browning.

Native Races of the British Empire, 4 vols. ; Through Savage Europe by H. De Windt ; In the Strange South Seas, by B. Grimshaw ; Highways and Byways, Bucks., Middlesex, and Oxford, 3 vols. ; The Future of Japan, by W. P. Watson ; Mountaineering in Norway, by Mrs. A. Le Blond ; Confessions of a Beach-Comber, by E. J. Banfield ; Australia : the making of a Nation, by J. F. Fraser ; Romantic Corsica, by G. Renwick ; A Lonely Summer in Kashmir, by M. Cotter Morison ; Siberia : travel and exploration, by S. Turner ; Inland Cruising, (Rivers and Canals) by G. Westall ; The Heart of the Antarctic, by D. Shackleton.

History of Co-operation, by G. J. Holyoake ; The New Socialism, and Against the Referendum, by J. T. Stoddart ; Principals of Political Economy, by C. Gide ; Economic Studies, by W. Bagehot.

The Interpretation of Radium, by F. Soddy ; Radiochemistry by A. T. Cameron ; Romance of Modern Chemistry, by J. C. Philip ; Wireless Telegraphy and Telephony, by A. E. Kennedy ; Light, Visible and Invisible, by S. P. Thompson ; Recreations of a Naturalist, by J. E. Harting ; The Art of Paper-Making, by A. Watt ; Engineering of To-day, by T. W. Corbin ; Autobiography of an Electron, by C. R. Gibson ; Romance of Modern Astronomy, by H. Macpherson ; Aerial Navigation of To-day, by C. G. Turner ; Fifty Years of Modern Painting, by J. E. Phythian ; Art in Northern Italy, by C. Ricci ; Sketch-Books by J. MacWhirter, 2 vols. ; Modelling and Sculpture, by Albert Tofts ; Human Anatomy for Art Students, by Fripp and Thompson ; Practice of Oil Painting and Drawing, by S. J. Solomon ; Treatment of Drapery in Art, by G. W. Rhead ; Hand-Loom Weaving by L. Hooper ; Plates to Writing, Illuminating and Lettering, (Art Handicrafts series) English Furniture, 18th Century, by R. S. Clouston ; etc.

Plays and Poems of Oscar Wilde, 6 vols. ; Mary Magdalene, and The Blue Bird by Maeterlinck ; Justice, by J. Galsworthy ; The Servant in the House, by C. R. Kennedy ; Poems by the Way, The Defence of Guenevere and other Poems by W. Morris, 3 vols. ; Poems of Ella Wheeler Wilcox, 4 vols. ; Plays by A. Sutro, 3 vols.

130 Volumes of recent Fiction.

The Language and Metre of Chaucer, by B. Zen Brink ; Estimations in Criticism, by W. Bagehot, 2 vols. ; Introduction to the Study of Literature, by W. H. Hudson ; The Round of the Cloek, by W. R. Nicoll ; The Young People, and I Wonder, [by Stephen Paget] ; An Adventure ; My Summer in London, Jas. Milne ; Books and Bookmen, by Andrew Lang ; Aspects of George Meredith, by R. H. Curle ; Sir Thomas More's Utopia, ed. by G. Sampson ; etc.

50 Volumes of recent Juvenile Literature.

32 Volumes of current Periodicals.

BRANCH LENDING LIBRARY.

94 Volumes of recent Works in Various Classes.

LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

Number of Volumes, March 31st, 1911.

CENTRAL LIBRARY, WITTON ROAD,

(*Opened February 4th, 1878, with 2700 volumes.*)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	614
Biography, History, Topography, Voyages and Travels	...	...	...	1696
Sociology	...	...	...	143
Arts and Sciences and Natural History	...	...	...	990
Games, Sports and Recreations	...	...	...	41
Poetry and the Drama...	...	...	...	419
Prose Fiction	...	...	...	4699
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	1208
Magazines and Reviews	...	...	...	2151
*Music	...	...	...	420
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	1098
Books for the Blind (Braille and Moon Type)	...	...	...	27
Total				13506
Total of Lending Department, March 31st, 1910				13164
Deduct by vols. discarded, being duplicates, or worn out and not replaced				44
				13120
Number of vols. added during the year				386
				13506

BRANCH LIBRARY, ASTON CROSS,

(*Lending Department opened December 14th, 1903.*)

Religion and Philosophy	...	...	...	70
Biography, History, Travels, etc	...	...	...	231
Sociology	...	...	...	14
Arts, Sciences, and Natural History	...	...	...	116
Poetry and the Drama	...	...	...	54
Fiction	...	...	...	1239
Miscellaneous Literature	...	...	...	63
Magazines	...	...	...	109
*Music	...	...	...	78
Juvenile Literature	...	...	...	355
Books of Reference, Encyclopædias, Dictionaries, Concordances, etc.	...	...	...	65
Total				2394
Number of volumes in the Library, March 31st, 1910				2353
Deduction by volumes discarded				4
				2349
Number added during the year				45
				2394
Total number of Volumes in Lending Libraries				15,900

* *i.e., Musical Compositions:* Works on the History and Theory of Music, Exercises etc., are counted in the Arts and Sciences Class

LENDING DEPARTMENTS.

STATISTICS OF ISSUES.

Classification of Volumes Issued from the Lending
Libraries during the year 1910-1911.

	<i>Centra</i>	<i>Branch</i>	<i>Total</i>
Religion and Philosophy	449	50	499
Biography, History, Travel, etc. ...	2488	653	3141
Sociology	168	—	168
Arts, Sciences, and Natural History...	2247	180	2427
Poetry and the Drama	591	71	662
Prose Fiction	67761	16393	84154
Miscellaneous Literature	1652	248	1900
Magazines	3902	514	4416
Juvenile Books	25118	9028	34146
Unbound Periodicals	146	—	146
Music	2357	175	2532
	106,879	27,312	134,191
Daily Average	347	90	437

	<i>Central</i>	<i>Branch</i>	<i>Total</i>
MONTHLY TOTALS, 1910-11.			
April	10098	2682	12780
May	8992	2160	11152
June	8378	2236	10614
July	8272	2245	10517
August	7817	1610	9427
September	8443	1606	10049
October	9018	2034	11052
November	9177	2091	11268
December	9024	2110	11134
January	9422	2470	11892
February	8791	2881	11672
March	9447	3187	12634
	106,879	27,312	134,191

Grand Total of Issues, 1878-1911.

From the Lending and Reference Libraries.

Year Ending		Central Lending		Branch Lending		Reference
March, 1879	...	75,036	...	—	...	—
„ 1880	...	70,914	...	—	...	—
„ 1881	...	67,583	..	—	...	—
„ 1882	...	66,092	...	—	...	2,109
„ 1883	...	75,395	...	—	...	8,096
„ 1884	...	69,247	.	—	...	11,041
„ 1885	...	77,219	...	—	..	12,380
„ 1886	.	73,368	...	—	...	14,599
„ 1887	...	94,979	...	—	...	16,208
„ 1888	...	91,761	...		...	16,769
„ 1889	..	82,605	..	—	...	14,199
„ 1890	...	67,467	...	—	...	16,616
„ 1891	..	67,692	...	—	...	18,485
„ 1892	...	77,621	...	—	...	15,311
„ 1893	...	81,319	...	—	...	12,012
„ 1894	...	84,026	..	—	...	12,599
„ 1895	...	82,036	...	—	...	14,967
„ 1896	...	87,100	...	—	...	12,409
„ 1897	.	67,593	..	—	...	10,401
„ 1898	...	62,874	..	—	..	11,287
„ 1899	...	63,682	...	—	...	10,959
„ 1900	...	72,724	...	—	...	10,698
„ 1901	...	80,150	...	—	...	14,309
„ 1902	...	82,032	...	—	...	14,114
„ 1903	...	90,051	...	—	...	15,849
„ 1904	...	87,545	...	8 291	...	17,264
„ 1905	...	89,904	...	31,370	...	17,604
„ 1906	...	97,790	...	27,661	..	17,172
„ 1907	...	96,877	...	26,449	...	17,440
„ 1908	...	97,811	...	25,918	...	18,230
„ 1909	...	109,096	...	24,216	...	20,006
„ 1910	..	112,569	...	34,715	...	18,623
„ 1911	...	106,879	...	27,312	...	20,640
		<u>2,709,037</u>		<u>205,932</u>		<u>432,396</u>

Grand Total of Issues in all Departments since the
opening of the Libraries

3,347,365

Central Reading Rooms.

(Opened January 4th, 1882.)

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those Marked thus * are presented by the Publishers.*

Daily.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily News
„ Gazette-Express (3)	„ Daily Mail
„ Daily Mail (3)	„ Daily Telegraph (2)
„ Daily Post (4)	„ Morning Leader
London Daily Chronicle	„ Standard
„ Daily Graphic	„ Times

Weekly.

Academy	Graphic
Amateur Photographer	Guardian
Army and Navy Gazette	Harper's Weekly
Aston News	* Hereford Times
Aston Villa (Football) News (2)	Illustrated London News
Athenæum	Inquirer
Baptist	* Journal of the Society of Arts
Belfast Weekly News	Labour Leader
* Birmingham Owl	Labour News
* „ Pictorial and Dart	* Lincoln and Stamford Mercury
„ Weekly Mercury	Liverpool Weekly Post
„ Weekly Post	* Local Government Chronicle
Black and White	London Opinion
* Board of Trade Journal	M.A.P.
British Congregationalist	Methodist Recorder
British Weekly	* Midland Counties Herald
Building News	* Motor Traction
Bystander	* Municipal Journal
Cambrian News	Nation
* Canada	Nature
Christian World	Notes and Queries
Church Family Newspaper	* Patents : Illustrated Official Journal
* Civil Service Aspirant	Pitman's (Phonetic) Journal
* Civil Service Candidate	Public Opinion
* Civil Service Weekly	Punch
Clarion	Queen
Contract Journal	Saturday Review
* Contractors' Record	School Government Chronicle
* Co-operative News	Scientific American
Daily Mail (Weekly Ed'n for Blind)	Scotsman
* Drapers' Record	Sketch
Dublin Freeman's Journal	Spectator
Electrical Review	Sphere
Electrician	Sunday School Chronicle
Engineer	T.P.'s Weekly
Engineering	Tablet
English Mechanic	Truth
Exchange and Mart	* University Correspondent
Field	* Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser
Garden	* Western Weekly News
Gardening	Westminster Gazette (Sat. edition)
Gentlewoman	* Worcester Journal (Berrow's)
* Gloucestershire Chronicle	Work
	Yorkshire Post

FORTNIGHTLY.

*Certificate Examiner
India Rubber Trades Journal

*University Correspondent

MONTHLY.

*Agricultural Economist
*Animals' Friend
*Arbitrator
Architectural Review
*Arms and Explosives
Art Journal
*B'ham King Edw. School Chronicle
Blackwood's Magazine
Bookman
Burlington Magazine
Captain, The
Cassell's Magazine
Century Magazine
Chambers's Journal
Contemporary Review
Cornhill Magazine
*Educational Times
English Illustrated Magazine
*Forester's Miscellany
Fortnightly Review
*Free Trader
Harper's Monthly Magazine
*Humanitarian
Idler
*Insurance Agent and Review
*Journal of Incorp. Soc. of Musicians
Knowledge
*Labour Gazette
Library Association Record

Librarian
Library World
Literary World
London Magazine, The
*Musical Herald
Musical Times
Nash's Magazine
*New Church Magazine
New Magazine
Nineteenth Century and After
North American Review
*Our Own Magazine (Y.W.C.A.)
Pall Mall Magazine
Pearson's Magazine
Photographic Monthly
*Plumber and Decorator
Quiver
*Reg. Gen.'s List of Deceased Seamen
Review of Reviews
*State Correspondent
Strand Magazine
Sunday at Home
*Tariff Reform Notes
*Vaccination Inquirer
*Vegetarian Messenger
Wide World Magazine
Windsor Magazine
Woman at Home
*Zoophilist

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

Bradshaw's Railway Guide
*Great Eastern Railway
*Great Western Railway
*Hammond's Railway Guide

*London & North-Western Railway
*London & South-Western Railway
*Midland Railway
*North-Eastern Railway
*White & Pike's Railway Guide

QUARTERLY, &c.

*Emigrants' Information Circulars

St. George : Journal of the Birmingham Ruskin Society

ANNUALS

Academy Pictures (Cassell)
*Aston Manor Council Proceedings
Birmingham Diocesan Calendar
Birmingham Red Book
*Birmingham University Calendar
*B'ham Soc. of Artists' Catalogue
*Co-operative Congress Reports
Directories (Birmingham, London,
Liverpool, Manchester, etc.)
*Durham University Calendar
Financial Reform Almanack
Hazell's Annual
The Odd Volume
*The Insurance Register
Library Association Year Book

*Register of Institute of Chartered
Accountants
Libraries, etc., Year Book
Literary Year Book
Low's English Catalogue
Municipal Year Book
*National Union of Teachers Year
Book
Printers' Pie
*Smithsonian Instit'n Annual Report
Studio Extra Numbers
Studio Year Book of Decorative Art
*Transactions of the Archæological
Society, Midland Institute
Whitaker's Almanack
The Year's Art

BRANCH READING ROOM,

ASTON CROSS.

List of Newspapers and Periodicals.

*Those Marked thus * are presented by the Publishers.*

DAILY.

Birmingham Evening Despatch (2)	London Daily News
„ Gazette-Express (2)	„ Daily Mail
„ Daily Mail (3)	„ Daily Telegraph
„ Daily Post (4)	„ Standard
London Daily Chronicle	

WEEKLY.

*Aston News	Harper's Weekly (second week)
Athenæum (second week)	Illustrated London News
*Birmingham Owl	Labour Leader
„ Weekly Mercury	Labour News
„ Weekly Post	London Opinion
Bystander (second week)	M.A.P.
Cassell's Saturday Journal	*Midland Counties Herald
Clarion, The	*Pitman's (Phonetic) Journal
Electrician (second week)	Public Opinion
Electrical Review (second week)	Punch
Engineer	Queen (second week)
Engineering (second week)	Saturday Review (second week)
English Mechanic	Scientific American (second week)
Field (second week)	Sketch (second week)
Garden	Spectator (second week)
Gardening	T.P.'s Weekly
Gentlewoman (second week)	Truth (second week)
Graphic	Westminster Gazette (Sat. Edition)
	Work

MONTHLY.

*Animals' Guardian	Literary World
Band of Hope Review (2)	London Magazine, The
British Workman	Pall Mall Magazine
Captain, The	Pearson's Magazine
Cassell's Magazine	Strand Magazine
Chambers's Journal	Sunday at Home
Cottager and Artisan	Wide World Magazine
English Illustrated Magazine	Windsor Magazine
*Labour Gazette	Woman at Home
	*Zoophilist

RAILWAY TIME=TABLES.

Bradshaw's Railway Guide	*London & South Western Railway
*Great Eastern Railway	*Midland Railway
*Great Western Railway	*North Eastern Railway
*London & North Western Railway	*White and Pike's Railway Guide

FREE LECTURES.

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL COURSE
OF FREE LECTURES, delivered under the auspices of
the FREE LIBRARY COMMITTEE consisted of fourteen Lectures.
They were as follows :—

1910

- Sept. 27th. GEO. E. THOMPSON, ESQ.,
"In Yorkshire Dales." (With Limelight Illustrations).
- Oct. 11th. MISS ADA L. WARD, LL.A.,
"An Englishwoman's Impressions of America." (With
Blackboard Sketches).
- Oct. 25th. THE REV. R. R. RODGERS,
"Italy: its classic ruins, its cities, arts, scenery and
people." (With Limelight Illustrations).
- Nov. 8th. N. FORBES AKHURST, ESQ.,
"John Ruskin: a Lecture-Recital."
- Nov. 22nd. H. SNOWDEN WARD, ESQ., F.R.P.S.,
"The Canterbury Pilgrims." (With Limelight Illustrations)
- Dec. 6th. T. H. RUSSELL, ESQ., F.L.S.,
"Animal Traits and Influences in the Plant World.' (With
Limelight Illustrations).
- Dec. 20th. WALKER R. YARDLEY, ESQ., L.C.P.,
"Scott and his Heroines.' (With Limelight Illustrations).

1911

- Jan. 3rd. HOWARD S. PEARSON, ESQ.,
"The Blue Mediterranean.' (with Limelight Illustrations)
- Jan. 17th. ERNEST YOUNG, ESQ., B.SC.,
"Finland, the land of a Thousand Lakes.' (With Limelight
Illustrations).
- Jan. 31st. W. STUART-SCOTT, ESQ.,
"The Sunny South." (with Limelight Illustrations and
Musical Selections).
- Feb. 14th. A. H. BLAKE, ESQ., M.A.,
"The London Streets by Day and Night." (with Limelight
Illustrations).
- Feb. 28th. CAPTAIN W. J. P. BENSON, F.R.G.S.,
"The West Indies and the Spanish Main." (with Limelight
Illustrations).
- Mar. 14th. THE REV. CANON SUTTON, M.A.,
Charles Dickens's "Great Expectations."
- Mar. 28th. HERBERT THOMPSON, ESQ.,
"Lane and Hedgerow," (with Limelight Illustrations).

Lectures in the Branch Reading Room

Aston Cross.

Seven Monthly Talks, or One Hour Lectures, were delivered by the Chief Librarian in the Branch Reading Room, commencing each evening at nine and concluding at ten o'clock, They were as follows :—

Monday, October 3rd, 1910.

“The Reign of Edward the Peacemaker.”

With Limelight Illustrations.

Monday, November 7th.

“A Holiday on Dartmoor.”

With Limelight Illustrations.

Monday, December 5th.

“In Dickens-Land with Dickens People”

With Limelight Illustrations.

Monday, January 2nd, 1911.

“Literary Recital,” by Mr. W. J. Dent.

Monday, February 6th.

“The Spacious Days of Queen Elizabeth.”

With Limelight Illustrations.

Monday, March 6th.

“A Century of Invention.”

With Limelight Illustrations.

Monday, April 3rd.

“London in the Twentieth Century.”

With Limelight Illustrations.

List of Donations to the Library DURING THE YEAR.

Anonymous —

The Bible of the Reformation, by W. J. Heaton

Ansell, Joseph, Esq. (*per*)

Birmingham Incorporation Inquiry; 3 vols.

Anti-Vivisection Society —

The Zoophilist, monthly as published

The Animals Friend, monthly, as published.

Aston Manor. Corporation of —

Council Minutes, 1908-9

Aston Manor Institutions, Reports from —

Borough Treasurer

Fire Brigade

Education Committee

Medical Officer of Health

Nursing Institution

Relief Association

Sanitary Inspector

Technical School

Australia: Minister of Home Affairs —

Official Year-Book of Australia (1901-09)

Birmingham and Midland Institute (*per A. Hayes, Esq.*)

Transactions of the Archæological Society, 1909

Birmingham University —

Calendar of the University, 1910-1911

Board of Trade—

The Board of Trade Journal, as published

Labour Gazette, as published, 2 copies

British Museum (Natural History Department)

Catalogue of Lepidoptera Phalænæ, vol. 9.

Catalogue of Orthoptera, vol. 3.

Catalogue of Chalcididæ

Guide to Crustacea, etc.

Guide to British Vertebrates

Catalogue of Books, Maps, and Drawings, vol. 3.

Catalogue of Marine Reptiles, Part 1.

Canada (The Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa)

Experimental Farms Reports 1909-10.

Carson and Comerfield (Messrs.)

The Stage Year Book, 1910.

Co-operative Union, Ltd.—

Report of the Plymouth Congress

Cotterill C. C. Esq. (the author)
The Victory of Love

Daily News Office
The *Daily News* Year Book 1910.

Durham University
Calendar of the University, 1910-11.

Fryer, Dr. A. C. (the author)
Aidan, the Apostle of England, 2 copies.

Harvey, Miss R.,—
Dugdale's History of Warwickshire, 1765; with extra illustrations, etc.
collected by the late Dr. John Harvey, J.P., 3 vols.
Knight's Old England, 2 vols.
Knight's Old England's Worthies
Antiquarian Cabinet, 10 vols.
The Friend, by S. T. Coleridge, 2 vols.
Scandinavian Mythology, by G. Pigott
Samuel Pepys and the World he lived in, by H. B. Wheatley.
A Vision of Souls, by W. J. Dawson
History of Religion, by Allan Menzies

Health Resorts, Handbooks to—
(Various) from the respective Town Clerks

Lawrence, Sir E. Durning (the author), *per* Mr. F. J. Burgoyne
Bacon is Shakespeare 4 copies

Libraries, Public, Reports, Catalogues, &c., from—

Aberdeen, Ashton-under-Lyne, Barrow-in-Furness, Barry, Batley, Battersea, Bebington, Belfast, Birmingham, Blackburn, Bolton, Bootle, Bournemouth, Bradford, Brierley Hill, Brighton, Bristol, Bromley, Bury, Buxton, Cambridge, Chorley, Cork, Coventry, Croydon, Derby, Dukinfield, Dundee, Ealing, Eastbourne, Eccles, Finsbury, Folkestone, Glasgow (Baillie's), Glasgow (Stirling's), Gloucester, Hammersmith, Hanley, Handsworth, Hastings, Hereford, Hornsey, Hove, Hyde, Kensal Rise, Kettering, Kimberley, S.A., King's Norton, Leeds, Leicester, Leyton, Lincoln, Liverpool, London (Bishopsgate Foundation), London (Cripplegate Foundation), Loughborough, Malvern, Montrose, New York, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Nottingham, Oldbury, Osaka (Japan), Oxford (Bodleian), Paisley, Penarth, Perth, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Preston, Richmond, Rochdale, St. Annes-on-Sea, St. Helens, Salford, Shoreditch, Smethwick, Stockport, Stoke Newington, Taunton, Torquay, Tottenham, Tynemouth, Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Warrington, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, West Bromwich, Westminster, Weston-super-Mare, Wigan, Willesden (Kilburn), Willesden (Harlesden), Willesden Green, Wimbledon, Windsor (Canada), Wolverhampton, Worcester, Workington, Great Yarmouth, York.

Line, C. A., Esq.—
Oxide of Zinc, by J. C. Smith

Macdonald, Messrs. William, Ltd.—
Macdonald's English Directory, 2 vols.

Ogita, E., Esq. (*of the Japan-British Exhibition*)—
Recent Progress in Corea

Patent Office—

Patents : Illustrated Official Journal, weekly, as published
 Abridgments of Patents, series 1905-8, as published
 Patent Office Library Series, as published

Registrar-General, The—

Monthly List of Deceased Seamen, as published

Reid, Sir H. G.—

Ethics of Getting-on in Life [AN ADDRESS]

Rorie, Dr.—

Select Exhortations, Faraday, etc.

Salvation Army, The—

The Romance of the Salvation Army, by H. Friederichs

Smithsonian Institution, Washington—

Smithsonian Institution Annual Report, 1909

Society of Arts—

Journal of the Society, weekly, as published

Swedenborg Society, The—

Report of International Swedenborg Society Congress, 1910

Thomas, J. M., Esq.—

Life of Dr. R. W. Dale

Life of Mrs. Schimmelpenninck

Nine Famous Birmingham Men (University Lectures)

University Correspondence College—

London University Calendar, 1911

Vegetarian Society—

Vegetarian Messenger, monthly, as published

Also the Newspapers and Periodicals (from their respective Publishers) marked thus * in the lists on pages 11-13.

Financial Statement. Year ended March 31st. 1911.

Income.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1910							
April 1st—To Balance in hand	...	...	...	171	3	0	
1911							
Mar. 31st—To Rate at 1d. in the £	...	...	...	990	0	0	
<i>Central Library—</i>							
To Fines	...	41	18	0			
" Catalogues, &c.	...	5	13	10			
" Re-Sales and Damages	...	3	6	4			
<i>Branch Library—</i>							
" Fines	...	15	9	8			
" Catalogues, &c.	...	1	2	1			
<i>Lectures—</i>							
" Advt.s. in Lecture Programmes	3	2	6				
				70	12	5	
				<hr/>			
				£1231	15	5	
				<hr/>			
				£1231	15	5	

Expenditure.

1910	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
April 1st—To Balance in hand	...	...	171	3	0	
1911						
Mar. 31st—To Rate at 1d. in the £	...	...	990	0	0	
<i>Central Library—</i>						
To Fines	...	...	41	18	0	
" Catalogues, &c.	...	...	5	13	10	
" Re-Sales and Damages	...	...	3	6	4	
<i>Branch Library—</i>						
" Fines	...	...	15	9	8	
" Catalogues, &c.	...	...	1	2	1	
<i>Lectures—</i>						
" Adverts. in Lecture Programmes	3	2	6	70	12	5
	<hr/>					
	£	1231	15	5		
	<hr/>					
	<hr/>					

1911	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Mar. 31st— <i>Central Library—</i>						
By Salaries	...	...	481	6	8
Books	...	...	128	8	9
Newspapers and Periodicals	...	...	89	10	1
" Binding	...	...	65	11	0
" Printing	...	...	48	3	11
" Light, water, fuel and cleaning	...	...	84	14	11
" Repairs and Sundries	...	...	24	14	7
	<hr/>			862	9	11
<i>Branch Library—</i>						
" Salaries	...	...	84	10	0
" Books	...	...	8	5	2
" Newspapers and Periodicals	...	...	26	9	8
" Binding	...	...	16	12	6
" Printing	...	...	19	0	
" Light, water, fuel and cleaning	...	...	55	7	8
" Repairs and Sundries	...	...	48	15	7
	<hr/>			240	19	7
Lecture Expenses (Central and Branch)	...	...	64	14	9
Balance in hand...	...	...	63	11	2
	<hr/>					
	£	1231	15	5		
	<hr/>					
	<hr/>					

April 1st, 1911—Bequest, £1000, with balance of interest on Mortgage standing to the credit of the Library ... £1159 0 6

Obtained from William Ansell Bequest.

The William Ansell Bequest.

April 1st, 1911—Bequest, £1000, with balance of interest on Mortgage standing to the credit of the Library ... £1159 0 6

Catalogues on Sale at the Libraries.

Catalogue of the Reference Department, on the Dictionary plan, with full entries under the various subjects, thus affording most of the advantages of a classified Catalogue, with greater simplicity, 1898, 200 pp. Price 2s. 6d., cloth.

Supplement to the Catalogue of the Reference Library, 1904 73 pp. Price Sixpence.

Dictionary Catalogue of the Central Lending Library, similar in plan to that of the Reference Library, 1906 460 pp. With Supplement, 1910, 110 pages. Price Sixpence.

(The Supplement separately. One Penny)

Hand List of Fiction in the Central Lending Department, 1911, 38 pp. Price One Penny.

Hand List of Musical Works in Central Lending Department, with appendix to 1910. Price One Half-Penny.

Catalogue of Books for Boys and Girls. A special Catalogue comprising a large selection from the General Library of such books as are suitable for young people. With appendix to 1910, 42 pp. Price One Penny.

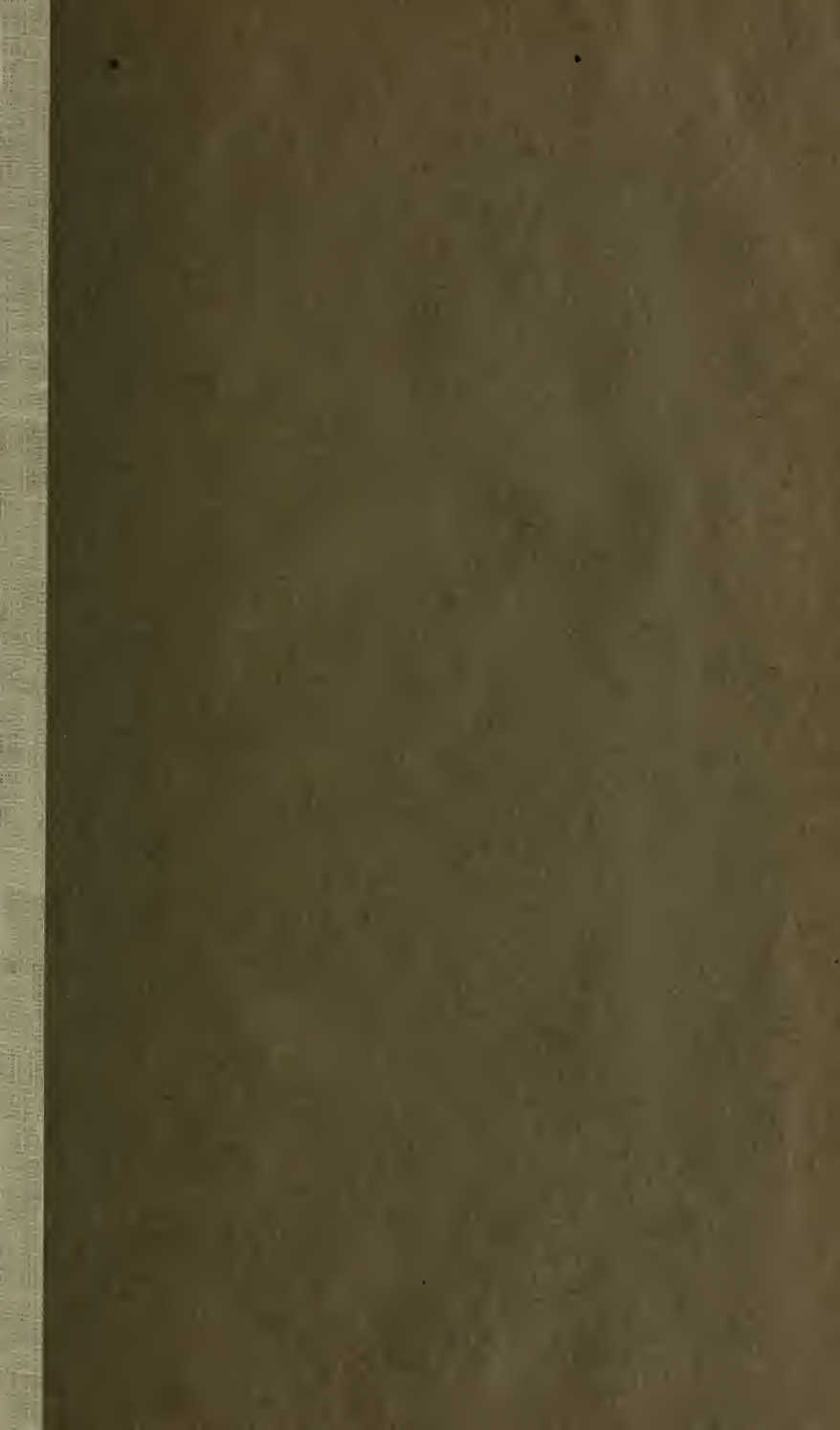
Catalogue of the Branch Lending Library, Aston Cross, 1906, 24 pp. Price One Penny.

Catalogue of Books for Boys and Girls (Branch Lending Library, Aston Cross) 1908, 20 pp. Price One Half-Penny.

Card Indexes on View at the Central Library.

A Card Index of Titles of Works of Fiction (5500 entries)

An Analytical Index of Subjects treated of in various works, as Collections of Essays, Miscellaneous Sources of Information, etc. (over 4000 entries).



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